

Quest

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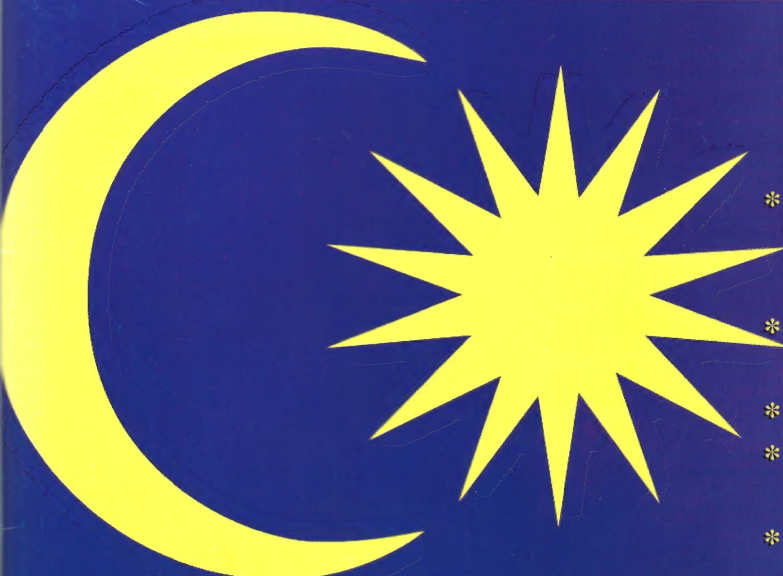


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THE GATEWAY TO BETTER ENGLISH



- * English Language Literature Component: *The Lake Isle of Innisfree*
- * English Language Literature Component: *How Dalat Got Its Name*
- * Comprehension Activities
- * English Through Songs: *A New Day Has Come*
- * Study Skill: *Emotional Stability for Effective Studying - Issues with Friends*
- * Special: *National Day*
- * Story: *The Best Gifts*
- * Computers: *You Drive Me Crazy*
- * Spotlight: *London's Population Explosion*
- * Profile of A Pop Star: *Shakira*
- * Brain Teasers, Idioms, Jokes, Games, Teenfile, Students' Corner, Penpals and many more!

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T HINK SMART! STAY AHEAD! WITH QUEST!

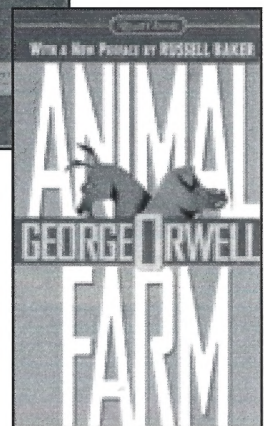
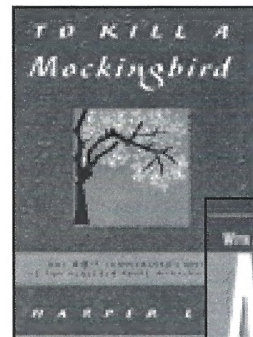
Books



*Books are more than words,
More than birds,
Brightness, more than song,
They last long.*

*When the covers close,
Wisdom grows:
Every thought is root,
Leaf and fruit.*

Joseph Joel Keith



**This Magazine is mine
By right divine
And if it goes astray
I'll call you kind
My desk to find
And put it safe away**

My Name:.....

My Class:.....

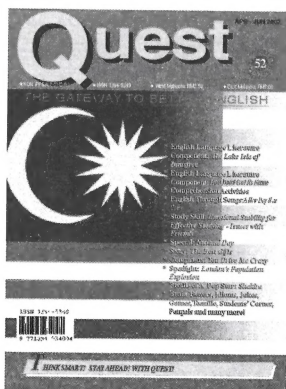
My Teacher:.....

My Best Friend:.....

My School:.....

My Motto This Year is:.....

My Hero:.....



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★ Low vocabulary

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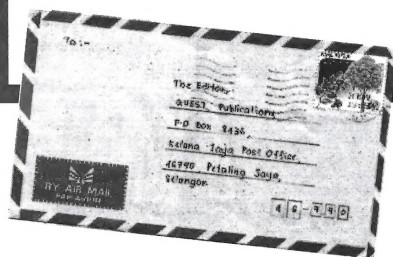
★★★ Advanced

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FROM YOU to Us...

The first time I saw QUEST (issue number 48) I was attracted to it. It gave me a lot of useful information. Since that issue, QUEST has been my favourite magazine. I ordered past issues and introduced QUEST to my friends. They, too, found reading QUEST helpful in improving their command of the English language. I really agree with the QUEST slogan. QUEST is the gateway to better English. I hope you can include a section on Westlife. I wish all the best for QUEST.

Nur Amalina Rosli
SMK Ismail
Kelantan



Reading QUEST is my hobby. It provides me with a lot of knowledge about the world and really helps in my studies. QUEST is very good for all students. QUEST is the best among the best.

Wan Norliza Wan Ngah
SMK Durian Mas
Terengganu

As a student, I'm glad I have such a good magazine. Thank you for the articles, exercises and jokes. Anyway, I have some suggestions for QUEST. I hope that QUEST could provide a column on how to study well and some tips for students on how to score high marks in examinations. Keep up the good work!

Hamimi Masrina ab.Hamid
SMKA Wataniah
Terengganu

*Ever since I got to know QUEST, I became an ardent reader of the magazine. I must agree that QUEST has helped many students like me in improving their English. I also hope that QUEST will reach out to many students, so that they will obtain what I did through the magazine. Bravo to the editorial board for publishing the magazine. I hope you will introduce more writers. May QUEST prosper in the years to come.

Lohes Nagarajah
SMK Tenang
Johor

QUEST is the best magazine I had ever come across. It really inspires me to love learning English. I am thankful to QUEST for all its efforts. The study skills column really help me. The language skills column help me in my compositions. Thank you!

Khugaashenee Thanabal
SMK Convent, Sitiawan
Perak

QUEST was introduced by my teacher. She said the magazine provides articles, jokes and exercises. The articles are really cool. Besides, they help me to improve my English. I want to thank all the 'crew' of QUEST for the good work. Keep it up!

Piong Sin Yee
SMK Dato' Mohd Taha
Negeri Sembilan

My tuition teacher, Mr Seelan, encourages us to read QUEST and do all the activities in it. I get to learn new words and lots of knowledge. QUEST has improved my English. Thanks, QUEST!

Nabila MOHD Anuar
SMK Seafield
Selangor

Thank you, readers, for your letters. QUEST would also like to thank all the Principals and teachers who encourage their students to read QUEST. - Ed.

QUEST welcomes letters and suggestions from readers. The best letter receives a prize worth RM10.00. Letters marked * will each receive a complimentary issue of QUEST. You may express your opinion on any article published in QUEST. Keep your letters short. Please address your correspondence to:
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In this issue, Margaret Daniel takes a look at the poem *The Lake Isle of Innisfree* contained in the Form 1 Literature text book. The Lake Isle of Innisfree is a poem written by Irish poet William Butler Yeats who was regarded as the greatest English Language poet of the 20th century. The Lake of Innisfree is taken from Yeats' collection of poems in *The Rose* written in 1893. It tells about the poet's love for his childhood countryside home in Innisfree, a small quaint town in Ireland.

The **Lake Isle of Innisfree**

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
And a small cabin build there, of clay and **wattles** made.
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honey bee
And live alone in the bee-loud **glade**.

I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,
Dropping from **the veils of the morning** to where the cricket sings
There midnight's all a **glimmer**, and noon a **purple glow**
And evening full of the **linnet's** wings

I will arise and go now, for always night and day
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavement grey,
I hear it in the deep heart's core



Meaning of words

wattles: branches used for fencing
nine bean-rows: nine rows of beans
bee-loud: buzzing sound of bees
glade: a grassy open space in a forest
veils of the morning: mist
glimmer: stars
purple glow: the wild and purple flowers in the meadow
linnet: small brown singing bird

In the first stanza, the poet talks about his happiness living alone in Innisfree and being so close to nature. The poet likes living in solitude with nature as he feels free and contented by himself. In the second stanza, the poet talks about the peace that comes slowly to him as he enjoys the beautiful atmosphere and sounds of nature surrounding him. He can hear the cricket singing in the morning, enjoy the scenery of the stars at night and the wild purple and blue flowers in the meadows during the daytime. He also enjoys looking at the linnets in the evenings and listening to them singing.

In stanza 3 the poet talks about how he misses the countryside of the Innisfree and its beauty and longs to go back there again.

Now let us look at some of the poetic devices used in the poem.

Metaphors

A **metaphor** is a figure of speech that compares two things that have something in common. Metaphors do not use the words 'like' and 'as' that is direct comparison which is known as **simile**. In stanza 2, the lines 'And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slowly. Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings.' The phrase 'peace comes dropping slow' shows that peace is likened to a light object that flows gracefully. The phrase 'veils of the morning' refers to the mist covering the sky in the morning. The word 'veil' is used as a veil usually covers a person's face. Therefore, the lines mean that peace is compared to a mist that forms slowly and covers everyone.

Repetition of Words

Repetition is a literary technique when a group of words are repeated throughout a selection. The poet's aim is special emphasis. In Stanza 1, Line 1 the poet says 'I will arise and go now and go'. In Stanza 3, Line 1 he says again, 'I will arise and go now'. This repetition shows the poet's determination to return to Innisfree.

Rhyme and Stanza

The poem consists of 3 stanzas and the rhyme scheme is,

Stanza 1: abab

Stanza 2: eded

Stanza 3: efef

Points of View

The poem is written in the first person point of view as the poet ponders in his interior monologue. The pronoun 'I' is used to emphasise the importance of the poet's feelings. The poet is feeling a deep sense of nostalgia as he longs to return to Innisfree.

Themes

The poem emphasises nature's healing effect as it rejuvenates our minds and soul. In other words, it makes us feel fresh and have a new zest for life. The beautiful scenery of the countryside as well as the sounds of nature such as birds have a calming effect on us and gives a sense of peace in our hearts. This will make us happier and contented as well as give us a more positive outlook in life.

E **NGGLISH LANGUAGE LITERATURE COMPONENT** ★★

Now let's look at some of the types of questions that might be tested in the PMR examination.

A. Circle the correct questions.

1. Where do you think the poet is when he says 'I will arise and go now?'
 - a. In his study
 - b. In Innisfree
 - c. At the lake
 - d. In his small cabin
2. What can he see at midnight?
 - a. Cricket
 - b. Mist
 - c. Stars
 - d. Purple glow
3. How do you think the poet felt as he thought of all things he would do when he got to Innisfree?
 - a. Sad
 - b. Tired
 - c. Happy
 - d. Fearful
4. The poet talks about the beauty and sounds of nature in the second stanza.
The mood of this stanza is one of
 - a. contentment
 - b. joyfulness
 - c. sadness
 - d. anger

B. Answer the following questions.

1. Why does the poet want to go to Innisfree?
2. When does the poet recall the sound of lapping water?
3. The poet is a nature lover. Do you agree? Why?

Compare your answers given below:

- A. 1. a
2. c
3. c
4. a

- B. 1. He wants to go there because he wants to a peaceful life.
2. He recalls it when he stands on the roadway or pavements.
3. Yes, I agree. This is seen in the way he speaks about the surroundings of Innisfree: the sounds of insects and birds, and the beauty at different times of day.

How *Dalat* Got Its name

by Heidi Munan

1. About the Author

Heidi Munan was born in Switzerland but lived in Sarawak since her marriage in 1965. She had her education in Switzerland and New Zealand. She is a graduate post-primary teacher. Her interest in folk tales grew while listening to her mother-in-law telling children's stories to her children when they were young. She has written lots of stories. e.g. Sarawak stories, Iban stories, Bidayuh stories, Melanau stories and books about the daily life, customs, arts and handicrafts of her home state. She also does research at the Sarawak Museum. The author first heard this folk tale 'How Dalat Got Its Name' from a dear friend in Mukah, a town near Dalat. She recorded it and then rewrote the story.

2. Synopsis of the Story

Here, a synopsis of the story is given in which some words are left out. Fill in the blanks with suitable words. To know the story in detail, you have to read the whole literature text.

This is a story of how a (1) Melanau village in Sarawak got its name. The story begins in a village which is situated on the (2) Oya river. The old chief of the village has (3) three sons whom he calls at his bedside to give some advice, before he passes away. He advises his sons to (4) help and support each other. The old chief then dies before he could name his (5) Successor. According to tradition, the eldest son (6) Galau should be the chief but the second son (7) Umat claims the chieftanship because he is a (8) brave warrior. Galau being kind and (9) gentle keeps quiet because he does not want to quarrel with his brother. Lutong who is fair and

(10) sensible thinks they should follow the custom. A (11) quarrel breaks out among the 3 brothers. (12) Umat creates chaos in the village and the villagers are divided. Some supported (14) Umat. Umat then leaves the village with his supporters to join forces with their (15) enemies to attack his own people. (16) Galau instructs the villagers to prepare for war. They build a tall, strong house that was far off the ground, called (17) tallhouse. All the villagers live in this house to protect themselves from the enemies. (18) Umat then leads the enemies to the village. A terrible (19) war breaks out. Many people are killed. The war ends with the fall of the enemies and death of (20) Umat. Umat's men flee. The whole village is scattered with dead bodies which attract thousands of (21) black flies. (22) Galau is filled with grief. He decides to rename the village 'Dalat' which means (23) flies in the Melanau language and reminds the villagers that (24) unity and (25) peace are important.

3. Theme and Issues

Next we look at the theme and issues

Theme: Family members can become enemies due to greed for power. In war, nobody benefits. Instead, there is sufferings and destruction.

Issues: Family members should cooperate and be united and not fight with each other. In a country or village, the people should obey laws and maintain peace and order and live in harmony.

4. Character Traits

Now, we turn to the characters and their traits. There are 3 main characters in this story. They are Galau, the eldest son, Umat the second son and Lutong the youngest son.

Traits of the characters:

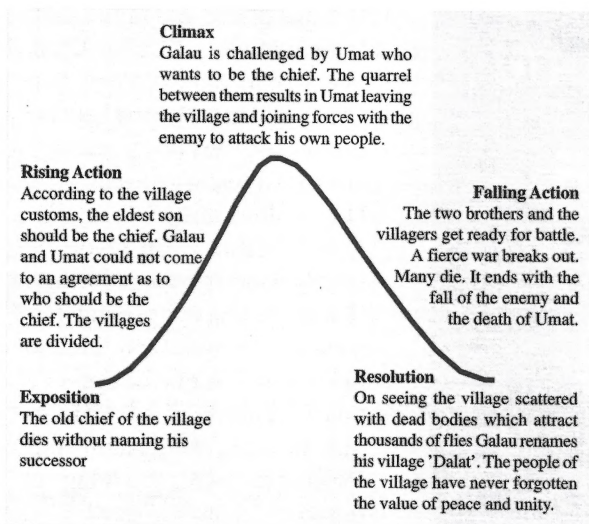
- Galau - wise, fair and just; knows the laws of the village
- Umat - hot-tempered, arrogant and cruel; a brave warrior
- Lutong - sensible, fair and peace-loving

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LITERATURE COMPONENT

5. Plot

In the first issue, we described the plot of a story and how it can be represented by a graph.

Let's see how the plot of this story can be summarised briefly in a graph.



6. Setting

The story occurs in a village located on the Oya river in Sarawak. It is a small pleasant village with longhouses on stilts. The people belong to the Melanau tribe and are mostly farmers and fishermen. The events in the story happened a long time ago.

7. Point of view

The story is narrated in the third person. The author describes the actions and emotions of the characters but doesn't reveal the thoughts of the characters.

8. Language and style

The language is simple. The use of dialogue makes the story interesting and dramatic. The character traits of the main characters and the situation in the village before the war and after the war is made known through the use of contrast. Descriptive details of the longhouse and the night the enemies attacked help the readers to visualise the situation clearer.

9. Message

1. People should be united to be strong and live in peace and harmony.
2. Customs should be respected and followed and to rebel will lead to destruction.
3. We should not be greedy and desire what does not belong to us.

Answer the questions below to enhance your understanding further.

1. What advice did the wise old chief give to each of his sons?

2. Why did the villagers hold a meeting?

3. Give 2 reasons why Galau suggested that Paor and Senan carve the memorial pole for their dead father.

4. Why did Umat think that he would make a better chief?

5. 'The new chief should do it. I think I will ask Jali and Galong, they are better workmen'. Who said these words?

6. Were the villagers willing to build a memorial pole for Umat? Why?

7. 'His wisdom is as good as another man's strength'. Who were the village men talking about?

Answers. See upside down.

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1. | Galau - continue to be fair and just and always be good for the family to prosper. Umat - be kind and gentle to your brothers. If brothers quarrel, there won't be peace in the village. |
| 2. | They are good workmen and they came from good families. Help elder brother who will be the new chief with good advice. |
| 3. | To decide as to who should be the new chief |
| 4. | He is tall, strong and brave and he has been in fights and wars |
| 5. | Umat |
| 6. | No, because Umat should not have gone against his own brother |
| 7. | Galau and allied with the enemies about the terrible war. |
| 1. | Melanau |
| 2. | Oya |
| 3. | three |
| 4. | help/cooperate |
| 5. | successor |
| 6. | Galau |
| 7. | Umat |
| 8. | brave |
| 9. | gentle |
| 10. | sensible |
| 11. | quarrel |
| 12. | Umat |
| 13. | Galau |
| 14. | Umat |
| 15. | enemies |
| 16. | Galau |
| 17. | tallhouse |
| 18. | Umat |
| 19. | war |
| 20. | Umat |
| 21. | black |
| 22. | Galau |
| 23. | flies |
| 24. | unity |
| 25. | peace. |

Written by MK

Celine Dion is back! After being away from the spotlight for two years, Celine's strong yet gentle voice is as great as ever in her latest hit A New Day Has Come.

A New Day Has Come

A new day has...come
I was waiting for so long
For a miracle to come
Everyone told me to be strong
Hold on and don't shed a tear
Through the darkness and good times
I knew I'd make it through
And the world thought I had it all
But I was waiting for you
Hush, love
I see a light in the sky
Oh, it's almost blinding me
I can't believe
I've been touched by an angel with love

Let the rain come down and wash away my tears
Let it fill my soul and drown my fears
Let it shatter the walls for a new, new sun
A new day has...come

Where it was dark now there's light
Where there was pain now there's joy
Where there was weakness, I found my strength
All in the eyes of a boy
Hush, love
I see a light in the sky
Oh, it's almost blinding me
I can't believe
I've been touched by an angel with love
Let the rain come down and wash away my tears
Let it fill my soul and drown my fears
Let it shatter the walls for a new, new sun
A new day has...come
A new day has...come
Ohhh, a light... Ooh

Songs express feelings. Celine Dion expresses feelings of happiness in the song. There are also words which express her feelings of sadness in the past. If you are a fan of Celine Dion, you would have known that Celine and her husband became parents of a baby boy a year ago, after many years of marriage. Do you think in *A New Day Has Come* Celine Dion could be talking about her son in the lines 'I was waiting for so long, For a miracle to come' and 'I found my strength, All in the eyes of a boy'? What kind of feelings does the song bring out in you? Pick out the words that bring out different feelings in you?

FIND AN ANTONYM

There are several **antonyms** in the song *A New Day Has Come*. Antonyms are words which have opposite meaning. For example: weak = strong, weakness = strength, dark = light, pain = joy. From the lyrics, find the antonyms for:

girl	_____ boy _____
old	_____ young _____
bad	_____ good _____
night	_____ day _____
up	_____ down _____
go	_____ leave _____
lost	_____ found _____

Answers on page 38

Idioms

come up against (something): *to be faced with difficulties*

You may **come up against** several problems while learning English but don't give up.

turn turtle: *to turn upside down*

The boat **turned turtle** when a big wave hit it.

a whizz-kid: *a very bright person*

My cousin is a **whizz-kid** when it comes to solving computer problems.

clean as a whistle: *very clean*

My school canteen is always **clean as whistle**.

play possum: *pretend to be unavailable*

Everyone **played possum** when the teacher asked for volunteers.

heatwave: *very hot weather*

Pak Ali made a lot of money selling cold drinks during the **heatwave**.

part company: *go in different directions*

We walked and **parted company** at the bus-stop.

lead a dog's life: *to lead an unhappy life*

The boy **led a dog's life** in the orphanage.

a lone wolf: *a person who likes to be on his own*

The new boy in class appears to be a **lone wolf**.

fly-by-night: *someone who is likely to disappear without notice*

Beware of **fly-by-night** tour agencies who are only interested in cheating innocent people of their money.

scream blue murder: *make a lot of noise and protest*

My sister **screamed blue murder** when she found out that I had spoilt her new CD player.

vent one's spleen: *to express anger*

My father really **vented his spleen** when he realised what I had done to his car.

upper-crust: *of the upper class*

Her accent sounds so **upper-crust** after years of studying in a Swiss residential school.

hot air: *empty boastful talk*

Don't believe him. What he says is all **hot air**.

EXERCISE

Pick five of the idioms and use them in sentences of your own.

1

.....

2

.....

3

.....

4

.....

5

.....

That's Not-Right-Lah!

Rewrite these sentences in proper English

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. How long you learn English?
..... | 11. Has you ever see a live jelly fish?
..... |
| 2. I wait here nearly one hour for you.
..... | 12. How long you wait for me?
..... |
| 3. They not speak to each other since yesterday.
..... | 13. She not eaten for ten hours.
..... |
| 4. I so tired I sleep soundly for ten hours.
..... | 14. I very busy for last week.
..... |
| 5. I look for them but they has not turn up yet?
..... | 15. They come here a month ago.
..... |
| 6. I not see you for a long time.
..... | 16. I make a mistake and I want to apologise.
..... |
| 7. I try to learn Spanish but I not succeed yet.
..... | 17. He fall and broken his arm.
..... |
| 8. We live here for six years and just decide to shift.
..... | 18. What you look for?
..... |
| 9. You not hear me? I ring bell for ten minutes.
..... | 19. You remember me or forget me?
..... |
| 10. My father go to Penang for meeting.
..... | 20. You must careful when you walk at night.
..... |

Answers on page 38

Beware. Some song

A professor at Stanford University in the US, Dr. Donald Roberts, says that negative song lyrics can affect a kid who is having problems. Teenagers at risk are those having trouble in school, having depression, or coming from broken homes. These 'at risk' kids are especially vulnerable to suggestive song lyrics, says Roberts. Studies show that 95% of such kids identify heavy metal as their most favourite music.

Should your parents tell you what sort of songs you should listen to? State your views here.

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

Comprehension Activity

Read the passage. Then based on your understanding, decide which word should be used. Write it in the blank.

I am rarely (commonly, rarely) hungry when I wake up in the morning.

This morning, my Mother asked me, "Lin, what do you want (want, reject) for breakfast?"

I responded (responded, asked) "Nothing (Nothing, Everything)".

"You must start (start, end) the day with a good breakfast, Lin," said my Mother.

"But I am late (late, early), Mother. The school bus will be arriving soon," I cried.

"You still have time, Lin. Now sit down. I have made *nasi lemak* for you. Here, drink this cup of Milo and have this banana, later," said my Mother.

"Yes, Mother," I said, knowing I can't argue with her.

"And remember (remember, forget), don't buy any of those junk food during recess," she said.

"Yes, Mother," I said, as I started on my breakfast.

Answers on page 38

Word Meanings From Context

You can improve your vocabulary by using context clues to know the meaning. Read the sentences to find out what the word in bold is trying to tell you. Then circle the most appropriate word.

- Salma is really an **introvert**. At Alia's farewell party, she sat in a corner without speaking to anyone. All she did was to eat the food.

Introvert means

- friendly
 - greedy
 - ☒ shy
- I don't know why my parents should make such a big deal about my hair. All I did was to colour it red. It's really quite a **trivial** matter.

Trivial means

- strange
 - ☒ unimportant
 - disgusting
- Your plan looks good. Let's **implement** it and see if it works.

Implement means

- instrument
- take apart
- ☒ carry out

- I studied well. Of course, I am going to pass my examination. I am always **optimistic**.

Optimistic means

- ☒ expecting the best to happen
 - boastful
 - worried
- No matter what happens, I **assure** you that I will never forget our friendship.

Assure means

- ask
 - ☒ promise
 - confide
- Za, I'm very upset about what you said. You said I was the only one in this room when you left your purse here. Are you **insinuating** that I'm a thief?

Insinuating means

- have a sinus problem
 - ☒ to suggest without clearly saying
 - to do something evil
- Dino has painted his room black. The ceiling is pasted with pictures of the galaxy. There are neon lights on the wall. He really has a **bizzare** sense of taste.

Bizzare means

- ☒ weird
 - cool
 - funny
- This stamp has lost its stickiness. I can't get it to **adhere** on the envelope.
- Adhere means*
- agree
 - lick
 - ☒ stick
- Redzuan is a young inventor. However, I don't think his latest invention, **edible** socks, is going to be successful. I mean, who would want to eat socks?

Edible means

- musical
 - ☒ fit to be eaten
 - fit to be worn
- Solar storms can not only spacecraft, but also disrupt terrestrial life. For example, they have even caused automatic gates to open in one town in the US.

Terrestrial means

- ☒ of the planet Earth
- terrace houses
- supernatural

Answers on page 38

FUN *with* WORDS

These words games test your knowledge and stimulate your thinking skill as well as your vocabulary skill. The first one is given as an example. Have fun!

What fits in the blank in each of the following sequences? Why?

1. egg, _____, pupa, butterfly

- a. tadpole
- b. cocoon
- c. spawn
- ☒ d. larva

Answer: _____ because _____

2. amble, _____, jog, run

- a. crawl
- b. sprint
- c. creep
- ☒ d. walk

Answer: _____ because _____

3. building, town, _____, country

- a. apartment
- b. continent
- c. planet
- ☒ d. state

Answer: _____ because _____

4. rocket, plane, _____, bicycle

- a. cart
- b. tricycle
- c. spacecraft
- ☒ d. train

Answer: _____ because _____

5. heel, knee, chest, _____

- a. ankle
- b. foot
- c. waist
- ☒ d. neck

Answer: _____ because _____

Answers on page 38

L

LANGUAGE GAMES



These words games, too, stimulate your thinking skill and improve your vocabulary. The first one is given as an example. Have fun!

Which word does not belong to the group?

1. milk cheese butter orange

Answer: orange

2. trumpet guitar harp violin

Answer: trumpet

3. sing hum whistle wink

Answer: wink

4. blue yellow maroon red

Answer: maroon

5. man mouse tree paper

Answer: paper

6. cupboard table chair wood

Answer: wood

7. hut bungalow cottage farm

Answer: farm

8. pool lake water pond

Answer: pool

9. Pluto Mars Topaz Moon

Answer: Topaz

10. teenager youth adolescent baby

Answer: baby

11. stare gaze look smile

Answer: smile

12. laugh titter grin sulk

Answer: sulk

13. twins triplets quadruplets double

Answer: double

14. triangle square rectangle circle

Answer: circle

15. coal diamond ruby sapphire

Answer: coal

16. velvet rug satin silk

Answer: rug

17. wail crouch cry sob

Answer: crouch

18. light bright fight dance

Answer: dance

19. sunshine rain storm thunder

Answer: sunshine

20. kind patient generous wicked

Answer: wicked

Answers on page 38



INCREASE YOUR WORD POWER

*Study how each word is used in the sentence.
Then use the words in sentences of your own.*

1. **durable (a)**: capable of lasting
Plastic is a **durable** material.
.....
2. **energetic (a)**: full of energy
Although my grandmother is old she is still **energetic**.
.....
3. **disperse (v)**: go various ways
When the police arrived the crowd **dispersed** quickly.
.....
4. **stuffy (a)**: lacking ventilation
Please open the windows. It is so **stuffy** here.
.....
5. **torrential (a)**: heavy
Many cars were stuck in the city after a **torrential** rain
.....
6. **shoddy (a)**: poor quality
Beware of **shoddy** goods at the shopping sale.
.....
7. **sleek (a)**: shiny and smooth
My hair looks **sleek** after I used the new shampoo.
.....
8. **stale(a)**: not fresh
Don't eat this bread. It is **stale**.
.....
9. **spill (v)**: to cause liquid to fall out
Walk slowly and try not to **spill** the water.
.....

10. **awful (a)**: terrible
Stop the **awful** noise! I can't concentrate on my work.
.....
11. **speck (n)**: small particle
There was not a **speck** of dust after we had cleaned the room.
.....
12. **junk (n)**: unwanted items
Save your **junk** for the jumble sale.
.....
13. **perish (v)**: to die
Hundreds of people **perished** when the ferry sunk in the rough waters.
.....
14. **extract (v)**: to take out
Add hot water to grated coconut and squeeze hard to **extract** coconut milk.
.....
15. **murky (a)**: dark and gloomy
There are crocodiles in the **murky** waters.
.....
16. **pulp (n)**: fleshy part of fruit
Tempoyak is made from the **pulp** of durian.
.....
17. **refund (n)**: repayment
If you are not happy with your purchase at the supermarket you can get a **refund**.
.....
18. **reminisce (v)**: to remember past events
I started to **reminisce** about the Summer Camp 2001 when I looked at the photo album.
.....
19. **outlook (n)**: mental attitude
She has a cheerful **outlook** on life.
.....
20. **outlandish (a)**: bizarre
People stared at the teenager's **outlandish** dressing.
.....

Q: What has a *mouth* but doesn't eat, a *bank* with no money, a *bed* but doesn't sleep, and *waves* but has no hands?

A: *a river.*

Q: What never gets any wetter, no matter how much it rains?

A: *The sea!*

Q: A man went outside in the pouring rain with no protection, but not a hair on his head got wet...how come?

A: *He was bald.*

Q: Did you hear about the girl who was tap dancing?

A: *She broke her ankle when she fell into the sink.*

Q: What lies at the bottom of the ocean?

A: *A nervous wreck.*

Q: Why did the kid stand on his head?

A: *His feet were tired!*

Q: What do you get if Batman and Robin get smashed by a steam roller?

A: *Flatman and Ribbon.*

Q: Why did the scientist install a silent bell on his gate?

A: *He wanted to win the no-bell prize.*

Q: What did the atoms say when they parted?

A: *It was time to split!*

Q: What do you do when your chair breaks?

A: *Call a Chairman.*

Q: Why did the man blush when he opened the fridge?

A: *He saw the salad dressing.*

Q: Why did the princess go to the dentist?

A: *To get her teeth crowned.*

Q: What button won't you find in a tailor's shop?

A: *A belly button.*

Q: What kind of tales do the ship captain's children like to hear?

A: *Ferry tales!*

Q: What kind of car does Mickey Mouse's wife drive?

A: *A Minnie van!*

Q: Why did the child study in the aeroplane?

A: *He wanted a higher education!*

Q: What kind of hair do oceans have?

A: *Wavy!*

RIDDLE

Julie's mother had four children. The first was April. The second was May. The third was June. What was the name of her fourth child?

Answer: Julie

SOMETHING TO DO

Make bookmarks using old greeting cards. Write these quotes on each. Give them to your friends. The funny quotes will make them laugh!

- * Black holes are where God divided space by zero.
- * If light is the speed of light, what's the speed of dark?
- * Support bacteria - they're the only culture some people have!
- * Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film.
- * When I'm not in my right mind, my left mind gets pretty crowded.
- * No one listens to you until you make a mistake.
- * Borrow money from pessimists - they don't expect it back.

EMOTIONAL STABILITY FOR EFFECTIVE STUDYING ISSUES WITH FRIENDS

by Elina Kamaruzzaman



In the last issue we discussed the importance of Emotional Stability for Effective Studying in Relation to Family Issues. This time, let's look at the relationship that you have with your friends.

Friends play an important role in a teenager's life. Many psychological researches have proven that young adults like you are usually closer to their friends than their family members at this stage of their lives. Now, there's no reason to feel guilty about that. It does not mean that our families mean less to us. It just means that at this stage you would like to explore life with those the same age as you and people other than your family. It's part of growing up.

We tend to be close to people who have similar interests as us. So, it's absolutely no surprise that you tend to hang out with those who have similar tastes in sports or music as you. It is these interests that bind you to a friend as you share them together. Subsequently, as you spend more time together, you would probably learn to trust them with your private side of your life. They will be the ones to whom you turn to when you have a problem or when you want to share secrets.

If you wish to do well in school, it is important to have friends who share same aspirations as you. If you falter in an exam, they will be the one who will motivate and help you to work harder the next time round. Friends who are sincere will lend a hand when you need to understand a mathematical concept and will share their knowledge willingly with you. When you do better than them they will be happy for you,

not jealous of you. Yes, sometimes it surprises us when a good friend is envious of our successes, as you would be if they were more successful than you. This is very natural, but don't go to the extent of resenting one another. Learn from your friend and tell him or her how proud you are of his or her success. After all, being a friend that make another feel special and motivated is a good thing.

As friends grow in importance, problems may occur along the way. For some of us, we may get distracted, as sometimes, problems with friends will even affect our studies. When this happens, it is essential that we try to deal with it instead of pushing it to the back of our minds. Here are a few issues you may face and how you may want to overcome them.

When friends hurt or betray you

Sometimes, when you tell your close friends something personal, you would feel betrayed that they had shared that information with someone that you don't really know or with someone that you have specifically told your friend not to tell. Or maybe, you made a mistake and you did not expect your close friends to discuss it with other people. After all, you would not wash your friends' dirty linen in public. Maybe they have hurt you. I have experienced an incident when I was growing up. My close friends had made plans to go somewhere exciting but somehow did not include me.

In all of these instances, you would feel betrayed. You would feel hurt and feel it would be senseless for you to talk to them because it did not make sense that they did that in the first place. The best thing to do is to let things lie for a few days and then find a time to confront your friends about it. Maybe, they were under some pressure to tell someone something about you, even when you had trusted them. Maybe, they did not invite you for some reason like they were out buying you birthday gift.

However, it could also be that they were insensitive to your feelings and did not value the trust you had given them. People make mistakes. Sometimes, it is a genuine mistake. Sometimes, sad to say, they are just being insensitive. When this happens, tell them how you feel and if they feel sorry for hurting your feelings, forgive them. That is, if you are willing to trust again and you are willing to keep the friendship intact. Sometimes it is better to have a cooling off period of one to two weeks before you can start all over again.

If you feel that your friends have been mean and they have done it a couple of times, that there is a need for you face up to the fact that maybe they have changed. When you feel that you cannot trust someone again, then it is better to move on. Yes, you will hurt and may cry and wonder what could have gone wrong. Perhaps, this was the way for you to see the other side of your friend that you were not aware of.

At the same time, when close friends are critical of you, they may mean well. Maybe they said you are lazy because you need to buck up in your studies. The label may hurt and you could tell your friends to say it in a better way like, "I wish you would study harder." Only close friends would point out your weaknesses as they care about you. Do you wonder why your parents are always picking on you? They just want you to be the best. Not everyone is gifted in giving constructive feedback or have the knack to be sensitive to everyone's feelings.

For some, they may accept their friends despite what they have done. The decision is yours. But if your friends have been hurting your feelings once too often then it may be an indication to look for other friends who value you the way you are.

When you grow out of each other

Sometimes we no longer have the same interest with our friends. Maybe they still want to procrastinate and play around in school, while you are more serious about your studies. You suddenly find that you have 'grown up' and your friends have not. Well, if you want to be more serious about your studies, you should tell them. Encourage them to do the same and that you will still have time to hang out and have fun but not all the time. If they feel resentful towards your new-found ways then let them be. Perhaps, it would take them a longer time to realise their potential. Continue to encourage them and lend them a hand if they need help, but do not try to change them.

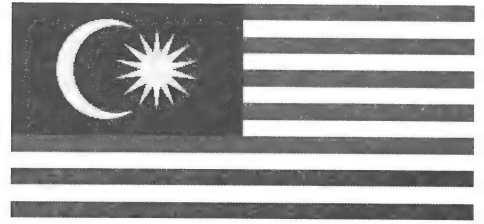
If you feel lonely that you have moved along and your friends have not, then perhaps be with your old friends and have fun like old times. If you need to be with a more encouraging crowd, make friends with them instead. But be upfront with your old friends that you are not trying to ditch them, you still care but your studies are important and you need to do well.

It is very disheartening when you feel that you are out there on your own. Things like this happen, even to adults. The most important thing is to remain objective and true to your heart. You cannot continue to pretend you accept your friends' certain way if it does not suit you anymore. This is all part of your evolving life.

Whatever it is, it is always better to talk about it with your friends, a counsellor or someone that you trust. If you do not confront the issue, the possibility for you to be distracted in your studies will be high. Don't let that happen! Stay focused

TAKE CARE and I look forward to your comments. E-mail me at mamaek@pc.jaring.my or write to me through Quest.

National Day



Malaysia will celebrate this year's National Day with the theme *Keranamu Malaysia*. The celebrations, held for one month, will be begin on 17 August and end on 16 September. This year marks the 45th year since Malaysia became independent.

Malaysia's struggle for independence from British rule was not achieved through war. It was based on the unity of its people - the Malays, Chinese, Indians and others.

Malaya, as it was known in the olden times, came to be ruled by the British when in the 1860s disturbances among the people caused the British to intervene. The British then gained control of the peninsula and ruled Malaya.

The people of Malaya wanted to rule the country themselves. They tried to protest. Warriors arose in different parts of the country - warriors like Datuk Maharajalela, Datuk Sagor, Tok Janggut, Dato' Bahaman and Mat Kilau. They tried to stage a rebellion against the foreign rulers but they couldn't succeed.

The British continued in power until the arrival of the Japanese during the Second World War in mid 1940s. When the Japanese surrendered, the British continued to colonise Malaya. They tried to maintain their position but the Malayan people's spirit was stirred. They wanted to be free from the British.

Malaya was made up of diverse communities with various religions, races and ethnic groups. Although the Malays were controlling the political leadership, they accepted other races who had come to work on the tin mines and rubber plantations. They realised that a struggle without the participation of other races would not succeed. Thus, the cooperation of two other major races - the Chinese and Indians - were sought.

Leading the struggle was Dato' Onn Jaafar. Born in 1895 in Bukit Gambir, Johor, Dato' Onn studied in England to study. He was the best student in English and French in his college. Upon his return from England he studied Bahasa Melayu at the Malay College Kuala Kangsar. Dato' Onn set up an organisation in 1946 to unite the Malays. The organisation was called UMNO (United Malays National Organisation). He was appointed the President of UMNO. In 1951 he resigned. He was succeeded by Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Alhaj.

The Tunku was the best sort of person to have during a nation's struggle for independence. He was well-liked and respected by all races in Malaya. Born in Alor Star, Kedah, on 8 February 1903, the Tunku studied law in Cambridge, England, then served in the government service in Kedah. When he succeeded Dato' Onn, he realised the difficult challenges the Malays would be facing in the struggle for independence. So the Chinese and Indians were brought into the fight for Malaya's independence.

The Chinese set up the Malayan Chinese Association (MCA) in 1949. Tun Tan Cheng Lock was elected the first

President. The Indians set up Malayan Indian Congress (MIC) in 1949. Tun VT Sambanthan became the first President.

The three parties, UMNO, MCA and MIC united under a political movement. It was called the Alliance. Tunku became its leader.

Now stronger and bigger, the Alliance hastened the process of independence by proposing a general election. The British agreed. On July 27th 1955, the Alliance won 51 out of 52 seats contested. So the first government was formed. Tunku became the first Chief Minister.

In January 1956, Tunku Abdul Rahman headed a team of delegates to London to discuss Malaya's independence with the British government. It was successful. An agreement called the London Pact 1956 was signed by



both parties. The British government then agreed to grant Malaya its independence on August 31 1957.

A new constitution for an independent Malaya was outlined. Among the important points in the constitution agreed on by all were:

- * A Malay monarch would be the head of state while other monarchs would rule their respective states. Two of the Straits Settlements, Malacca and Penang would be under a Yang DiPertua.
- * The Malay language was made the national language and Islam was the official religion. English still could be used in the Federal Law Council until 10 years passed after independence. The Chinese and Tamil languages could be used for teaching in schools. Citizens were free to adopt any religion.
- * The Malays' special rights and privileges were ensured.
- * Anyone born on or after independence day was automatically declared a citizen.

On the night of 30 August 1957 at Merdeka Square, Kuala Lumpur, the British Union Jack flag was lowered for the last time and the Malayan Flag (later named *Jalur Gemilang*) was raised. It was a new symbol for the newly independent nation. Tunku became Malaya's first Prime Minister.



Religious Harmony in National Day Celebrations

This year's National Day celebrations will see more spiritual values injected into it.

Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Paduka

Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir held a meeting with different religious groups at his ministry in April. They included state Islamic Affairs department directors and representatives from the Malaysian Christian Association, Malaysian Buddhist Co-ordination Committee, Malaysian Hindu Sangam, Malaysian Gurdwara Council and the Taoist Federation of Malaysia. Abdul Kadir said they would work with the state-level National Day organising committees to get schools involved.

'We want more participation from everyone,' he said. He said various communities would hold religious programmes and special prayers nationwide on different dates in August.

'With this special religious programmes, we hope everyone will participate to give thanks to God and pray for the future,' he said.



Something To Think About

1. What does unity mean?
2. What causes conflicts to occur?
3. What happens when a country is constantly at war?
4. Which of the proverbs is most appropriate for the story?
 - a. *Make hay while the sun shines*
 - b. *United we stand, divided we fall*
 - c. *A stitch in time saves nine*
5. Malaysia has been enriched by people, traditions and religions from many lands. Our country is a 'blend of cultures forming one nation'. What do they mean to you?

A Beautiful Mind won four Oscars at the Academy Awards in Hollywood. The film is based on the true life story of John Forbes Nash Jr, a mathematical genius. Nash's great mind becomes afflicted by schizophrenia - a mental illness. He gets psychiatric help, but the drugs dull his mind. Nash fights the illness. Though the illness does not go away completely, Nash learns to deal with it. Finally, Nash gains the respect and admiration - and a Nobel Prize for his work on mathematics.

John F. Nash

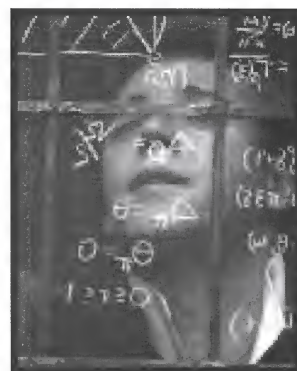
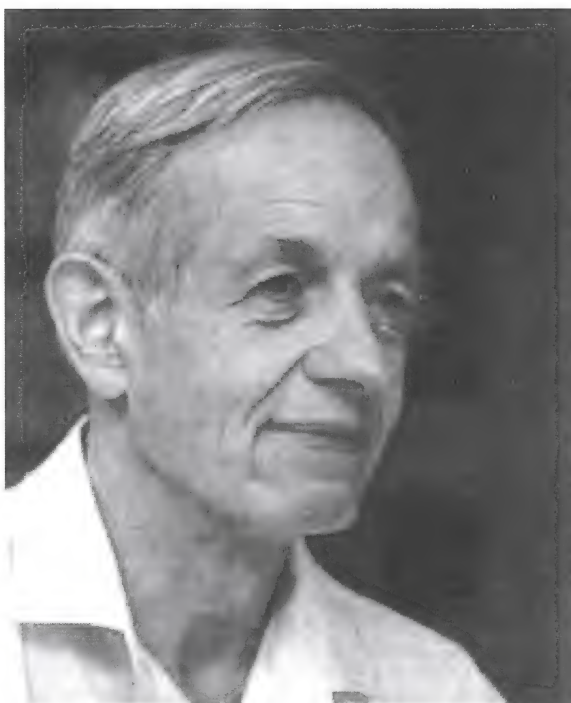
John Forbes Nash was born on June 13, 1928 in Bluefield, West Virginia, USA. His father was an electrical engineer and his mother, a school teacher. Nash had a sister, Martha, two years younger than him.

Nash went to school in Bluefield. As a child, Nash enjoyed reading encyclopaedias and educational books. By the time he was a student in high school he was reading the classic 'Men of Mathematics' by E. T. Bell and doing pure mathematical problems.

In 1945, Nash won a scholarship and was accepted by the Carnegie Institute of Technology to take up chemical engineering. However, his talents in mathematics caught the attention of mathematics professors. They encouraged him to become a mathematics specialist. Although his mathematics professors heaped praise on him, his fellow students found him a strange person. They made fun of him. They thought he was an immature person with childish behaviour.

In September 1948 Nash entered Princeton, a prestigious university. His former professor, R.J. Duffin, at the Carnegie Institute of Technology, gave a letter of recommendation which said just one line: 'This man is a genius'.

From 1952 Nash taught at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Around this time, Nash began to have



personal problems in his life. Then, one of Nash's students, Alicia Larde, became interested in him. In 1956, Nash's father died. In 1957 Nash married Alicia. In 1958 she became pregnant. A couple of months later, Nash's mental state became very disturbed. He was only 30 years.

A long sad episode followed. It included periods of hospital treatment, temporary recovery, then further treatment. Despite spending periods in hospital, Nash's ability to produce mathematics of the highest quality did not totally leave him. His mathematical works continued to have success after success.

In the 1990s Nash started to improve gradually. In 1994 he was awarded Nobel Prize in Economic Science for his work on game theory.

In 1996 Nash delivered a paper at the tenth World Congress of Psychiatry. He described his illness. He said that during his illness, he felt that people were behaving strangely. He heard voices, sometimes like telephone calls from people opposing his ideas. He believes that great mathematicians suffer from maniacal characteristics, delirium and symptoms of schizophrenia. However he said he would not dare to say that there is a direct relation between the two.

*August 9 is the International Day for Native People around the world. This folk tale **The Best Gifts** by the forest people of Brazil narrates how forest people take care not to destroy the natural environment upon which they depend their livelihood.*

The Best Gifts

Yurupari, he is god. He lives far away across the river, far beyond the rapids. It was long ago, back at the beginning of all things. I have seen this time in my mind's eye, using that deep inner eye that only a shaman can open. I travelled through the secret mind's door into that long ago time: this is what I saw...

I saw Yurupari with a basket full of gifts. He wanted to share these good things with people; for, at that time, the people had nothing. They were no better than animals: they could do the things that animals can do, but nothing more.

So he called across the river and the people came to him. Then, as now, there were many different tribes. They waded across the water to him, one tribe at a time. He greeted them as a father greets his children, and gave each tribe a different gift.

To the first tribe he gave baskets: he taught them how to make them, and how to use them. To the next tribe he gave spears, to the next bows and arrows, and to them next one hammocks.

Thus and thus, one gift after another, he shared with the forest peoples. One tribe after another, they came to him; they collected their gifts; they thanked him; they went home.

Still, still as a rock, still as a mountain, Yurupari waited. More people were coming. But these were people from

another world, from the world beyond the forest. They were strangers, the ancestors of city people, your people.

'Welcome!' called Yurupari. 'Wade across the river to me! I have precious things to give you.'

'Why should we come to you?' your people shouted back. 'How do we know we can trust you? What can you possibly have that we might want?'

Yurupari was amused at their suspicion. 'For you... now let me see... Ah yes, I have the best gifts of all!' he said. 'I have Thought; I have Knowledge; I have Understanding. If you come to me, I will show you how it is possible to understand everything in the world, everything in the universe!'

But your people had no trust: they stayed just where they were. They stared at the swirling river and told themselves it was too wild, too hostile, totally impossible to wade across it,' they said to each other. So they sat down and measured and muddled and made things. Thousands of years passed: but at last they had a boat. 'We're coming!' they called.

But Yurupari, he laughed at them: 'Why did you need to invent a boat to travel through the water? Fish have been doing this much more skillfully than anything you can make, right since the beginning of time.'

Your people, they think they're the greatest, cleverest tribe in the whole world: greater than the gods, even. They didn't like the way Yurupari mocked at their achievements. So straight away they got out more tools to measure and calculate. They were determined to invent something even better, much better than a boat. This thing, they decided, would stretch right over the widest part of the river in a single span, so that they could walk straight across it without getting wet. At last - a few thousand years later - they had got it right: they made a bridge.

'That's quite good,' chuckled Yurupari. 'You have made something

nearly as clever (but not quite) as the vines and creepers which have been growing quietly, twisting and tangling, stretching themselves over the river, ever since the beginning of time!'

At this, your people started to get into a real rage. They couldn't take all this mockery. 'All right,' they said, 'we'll show you, you stupid old forest-god! Keep your worthless gifts for yourself: we already have all the knowledge and understanding that we want anyway. Just to prove it, we'll show you how we're the only people on Earth who can fly across the river!'

So they went away for another few thousand years. They measured and fumbled about, until at last they had invented the aeroplane. They were pretty proud of that, oh yes!

From far away, Yurupari saw it. 'It's not bad,' he said, 'but it doesn't work anything like as well as a bird. And birds have been around since the beginning of time, you know.'

'Now listen my friends: why don't you leave all your crazy little inventions alone for a while? Calm down, and just come, wade straight across the river to me. This gift I have for you - true Knowledge, true Wisdom - will prove itself far more precious than anything you can possibly make yourself.'

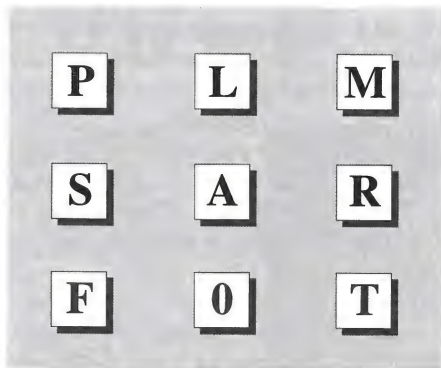
But they would not come, your people. They stayed where they were, on their side of the river. There they continued to invent and fashion many machines, many gadgets. They were ingenious, these things, and yet... you know, each one was just a poor, hollow imitation of what already exists in nature. Even a bomb: it is only a copy of a volcano. Even a computer: it is just a poor cold imitation of a living human mind.

Ever since then, true Knowledge, true Understanding has stayed just where it has always been. It lies way across the river from you, deep, deep in the forest, safe with Yurupari, and safe with us, the forest people.

WORD TARGET

WIN
EXCITING
MYSTERY
PRIZES

Each square contains a letter. All you have to do is to form as many words as you can using the letters in the squares. Read the rules below carefully before you start.



RULES

1. Every word you form must make use of the letter **A**.
2. Words must be made up of **THREE** or more letters.
3. Proper nouns, slang words, abbreviations and plural words are not allowed.
4. **YOU CANNOT REPEAT THE SAME LETTER TWICE** in a word.
5. **YOU CANNOT REPEAT THE SAME WORD TWICE.**
6. Finally, every entry must contain **ONE** word formed from all the nine letters in the squares.
7. Write down all the words on a sheet of paper. Write clearly.
8. All entries must be accompanied by the contest coupon provided in page 25.

PRIZES

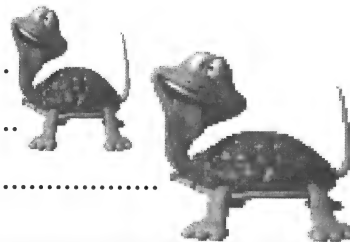
1. **FIVE** winners with the most number of correctly-formed words will **EACH** receive **A MYSTERY PRIZE WORTH RM10.00**
2. A **FREE** copy of **QUEST** will be sent to **TEN** others with the most number of correctly-formed words in each descending order of merit.

‘WRITE SOMETHING FUNNY’

FUN STICKERS
TO BE WON

**FOR READERS BELOW
11 YEARS!**

Look at the picture. Think of something funny to write about the picture.



.....

.....

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.....

This contest is open to those below 11 years. Cut the coupon and send it together with your big brother's or sister's entry.

If you are sending your entry on your own, write your name and address on the coupon on page 25 and send it to the address on Page 25.

PRIZES

THREE lucky winners picked after the closing date will receive **FUN STICKERS**.

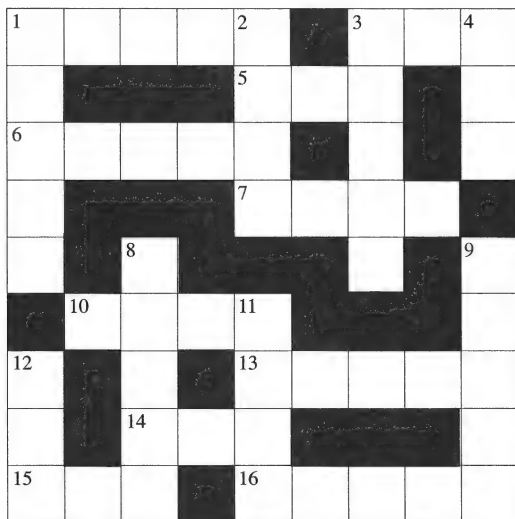
EXCITING MYSTERY
PRIZES TO BE WON!!

ACROSS

1. Worn to protect clothes (5)
3. Opposite of lose (3)
5. Make a mistake (3)
6. Reflection (5)
7. To eat (4)
10. What hunters do (4)
13. A popular fruit (5)
14. Unwell (5)
15. Zero (3)

DOWN

1. ____ in Wonderland (5)
2. To want badly (4)
3. Not right (5)
4. To annoy (3)
8. Person being taught (5)
9. Large area of water (5)
11. Untrue story (4)
12. Common vehicle (3)



Name:

School: Form:

Address:

QUEST 52 CONTEST COUPON

I AM ENTERING THESE CONTESTS :

1.

Name: Boy/Girl

I. C: Date of Birth:

School: Form:

Home Address:

Postcode: _____

QUEST Q52 PEN-PAL CLUB COUPON

Name: Boy/Girl

Date of Birth:

Hobbies:

Home Address: _____

.....

.....

CONTEST WINNERS

★ ★ ★ of QUEST 51 ★ ★ ★

WORD TARGET

The FIVE winners who will each receive a YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION OF QUEST are:

1. Subashini Vassekaran
SMK Raja Perempuan, Perak
2. Mohd Faiz Fathi Bin Asmori
SM(A) Addiniah, Pahang
3. Tan Wee Sern
SM Chung Hwa Wei Sin, T'gganu
4. Teng Wern Jyet
SMK Seri Kembangan, Selangor
5. Kou Jin Hui
SMK Yu Hua Kajang, Selangor

The TEN winners who will each receive a COPY OF QUEST are:

1. Siew Zer Hsein
SMK Keat Hwa, Kedah
2. Jenang Nakulan
SMK Yu Hua Kajang, Selangor
3. Fatimah Suhasliza
SMK Sultan Sulaiman, T'gganu
4. Wong Sze Yan
SMK Yu Hua, Kajang, Selangor
5. Siva Loshiny Vijayan
SMK BB Bangi, Selangor
6. Liyana Abd Rahmah
SMKA Durian Guling, T'ggau
7. Asma Mohd Yusoff
SMA Marang, T'gganu
8. Lee Sue Ann
SMK Hua Lian, Perak
9. Azmi Bin Ahmad
SMK (A) Tangok, Kelantan
10. Carolyn Jong
SMS Kuching, Sarawak

WRITE SOMETHING FUNNY

Fun stickers go to:
Debbie Amboi
from Sabah

CONGRATULATIONS to all winners!

To those of you who tried but did not win a prize, remember your answers were good, too. There were just too many entries and only a few lucky winners could be selected. Thank you for your participation. You did well. Do try again, okay? Who knows, you may win the next time!

CROSSWORD

The answers are:

ACROSS

1. PLOT
3. PLUM
6. THREE
7. ALTER
8. INFLUENCE
11. LADLE
12. LAD
13. OBEY

DOWN

2. LINEN
4. LATIN
5. MERGE
7. ACUTE
8. IGLOO
9. FUDGE
10. CRAMP

The FIVE winners who will each receive a YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION OF QUEST are:

1. Yong Jun Wei
SMK Yu Hua, Kajang, Selangor
2. Uma Devi Nadarajah
SMK Jalan Bukit Kajang, Selangor
3. Javier Teo
SMB St Joseph, Sarawak
4. Alexandria Lu
Sabah Tshung Tsin Secondary School
5. Sharumathi Narayanasamy
SM Convent Kajang, Selangor

The TEN winners who will each receive a COPY OF QUEST are:

1. Menaga Rama
SMK Convent, Perak
2. Velavan Santhiran
SM Teknik Kajang, Selangor
3. Deeban N
SMK SS 17 Subang Jaya, Selangor
4. How Ming Hui
SM Bandar Sunway, Selangor
5. Wan Arif
SMK Subang Jaya, Selangor
6. Teh Pui Geik
SMK Subang Jaya, Selangor
7. Mohd Haniff Bin Abdullah
SMK Sultan Abdul Aziz Syah, S'gor
8. S. Devikah
SM Jln Bkt Kajang, Selangor
9. Safwan Azri Bin Ismail
SMK USJ 4, Subang Jaya, S'gor
10. Foo Sek Shuen
SMK USJ 13, Subang Jaya, S'gor

Test your thinking skills with these games. To answer these questions, you have to let your brain think in different ways than you may be used to.



1. Whose Footprints?

Alysha, Aleya and Aria are triplets. One of them left dirty footprints on the kitchen floor. Since all three wear the same size shoes, their Mother and Father can't tell which triplet should clean up the floor. "I didn't do it," said Alysha. "Aleya did it," said Aria. "Aria is lying," said Aleya. Only one of the triplets is telling the truth – the other two are lying. Whose footprints are on the kitchen floor?

Answer: _____

2. Crossing the River

Wei Liang was standing on one side of the river, and his dog Bobo was standing on the other side. "Come on Bobo, come here!" called out Wei Liang. Bobo came. The amazing thing was that Bobo didn't even get wet! How did he do that?

Answer: _____

3. How's That?

Mrs Menon who was just learning to drive went down a one-way street in the wrong direction, but didn't break the law. How is that?

Answer: _____

4. Don't Bawl!

How can you throw a ball as hard as you can and have it come back to you, even if it doesn't hit anything, there is nothing attached to it, and no one else catches or throws it?

Answer: _____

5. You can't See Me!

Two students are sitting on opposite sides of the same desk. There is nothing in between them but the desk. Why can't they see each other?

Answer: _____

6. Rising Tide

The rope ladder of Pak Amin's boat hangs over the side of the boat and just reaches the water. Its rungs are 8 inches apart. How many rungs will be under the water when the tide rises 4 feet?

Answer: _____

Answers. See upside down.

1. Whose Footprints?
Alysha left the footprints. Remember, only one triplet can be telling the truth. If Aleya did it, then both Aria and Alysha are telling the truth. If Aria did it, then Aleya is telling the truth when she says that Aria is lying. With herself as the culprit, Alysha is lying by claiming she is innocent, Aria is lying by accusing Aleya, and Aleya is the one who is telling the truth.

2. Crossing the River
There was a bridge over the river. Bobo walked over it.

3. How's That?
She wasn't driving. She was walking.

4. Don't Bawl!
Throw the ball straight up in the air.

5. You can't See Me!
The two students have their backs to each other.

6. Rising Tide
When the tide rises 4 feet, the boat and its ladder will also rise. So no rungs will be under the water.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ



1. What is the largest lake in the world?

2. What is the largest continent in the world?

3. What is the highest peak in the world?

4. Where is the deepest point in the Earth's crust?

5. What is the capital of Pakistan?

6. What is the capital of Brazil?

7. What is the capital of Australia?

8. What is the capital of Switzerland?

9. What was Mumbai's former name?

10. What is Calcutta's new name?

11. What is the administrative capital of Malaysia?

12. Who was the Prime Minister when Malaysia got its Independence?

13. What is the festival celebrated by the Kadazans in May?

14. Where was the lowest temperature recorded on earth?

15. If you have gastritis, which part of your body would be in pain?

16. If you are dejected would you be happy or sad?

17. If you squint which part of your body would you use?

18. How do you tell when you run out of invisible ink?

19. If you sniff would you be using your teeth or nose?

20. When you are 'browned off' what do you feel?

Answers. Check your score here.

1. Caspian Sea
2. Asia
3. Mt Everest
4. The Mariana Trench, off the coast of Guam in the Pacific Ocean/ It is 36,198 feet below sea level.
5. Islamabad
6. Brazilia
7. Canberra
8. Bern
9. Bombay
10. Kolkatta
11. Putrajaya
12. Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Alhaj.
13. Kaamantan Festival
14. In Antartica. On July 21, 1983, the temperature reached a low of -128.6°F at Vostok, a Russian scientific research base in Antartica.
15. stomach
16. sad
17. eyes
18. You can't!
19. nose
20. bored.

Your brain is still under construction during teenage years. That is why it's so important to protect the brain from harmful substances.

Drug Abuse Damages Brain Cells



Having a healthy brain in your adult life depends on how it had developed all the way through the teenage years.

The brain, as you know, is mostly made up of gray and white matter. The gray matter comprises nerve cells that process information. For example, it is your gray matter that is trying to help you understand what is written in this article.

The white matter comprises long nerve fibers that move information long distances. For example, it's your brain's gray matter that recognizes a shuttlecock on its way over the net, while the white matter orders the swing, sending the ball back to the other side of the court.

In a fully developed adult brain, white matter is fully wrapped in myelin, a fatty substance that allows nerves transmit signals faster and more efficiently. Some nerves, including those that control emotion, judgment and impulse control are

not fully covered in myelin until a person is in his early 20s. As a result, the circuits that make sense of incoming information to the brain are still under construction until

about the age of 16. All the more reason, scientists say, you need to protect your growing brain from harmful substances.

It's at this time, during this adolescent growing period, that the brain is most vulnerable. It is also the time when teenagers are most likely to experiment with drugs or alcohol. Scientists are still trying to pinpoint exactly how different types of drugs affect the brain. But doctors say one form of drug abuse called inhalants abuse is definitely harmful. What inhalants do is to go up through the nose to the critical front part of the brain and damage brain cells. It changes one's feelings. That is why a person can change from a human being into a beast when he is under the influence of drugs.

@ *ugh! These drivers are driving me crazy!
Can't they learn how to drive straight?
Why do they drive into each other? How?*

The Spark-Key Column Version 3.5

You Drive Me Crazy!

Britney Spears drives software crazy...

Well, not quite. While someone may have driven her crazy, software drivers usually end up driving computer users crazy! How? They are one of the most complex components of software which have to deal with hardware (which is a difficult thing to do!). Considering modern computers have a plethora of devices connected to them, managing all seamlessly is a tiresome (if not bothersome!) thing for these device drivers!

Who are these drivers anyway?

Far from being F1 champion drivers, device drivers were named such due to their designation to 'drive' or 'run' the device it's designed for.

Every device that is connected to your computer in some way or another requires a file or a collection of files that are deemed as 'device driver' for it to function with your whole computer. Otherwise it'll just be a sitting piece of hardware (the device that's connected). The OS (Operating System) itself has to manage the workings of the computer so it cannot dedicate to handle the devices as well! You try managing a whole community by yourself and if you succeed go tell the computer makers how to follow you!

So what do these device drivers do? Let's see...

The thigh bone is connected to the knee bone

When a hardware is designed, the makers incorporate software codes in files or batch of files that can correspond (no, not write letters!) to their own hardware to become the communicator between that device and the rest of the computer. Since the manufacturer designed and made that device hardware, it's easier for them to generate their own computer code for the driver that will work seamlessly with their own hardware.

However, not always we have it that easy. Problems like lost device driver disc, wrong driver provided and corrupted ones cause problem. Usually then the user is left to use a substitute.

Sigh, you lost your driver? Fine, use mine...

In these instances, the OS can and will provide its own version that is quite compatible though not fully optimised for that device. Windows ME (Millennium Edition) comes with a huge driver database that tries to cover all the major brands, versions, model and series of devices out there.

Even then, with the sheer amount of devices out there from multitude of printers to scanners, hundreds of graphic cards to network cards, there are times when the OS can't find the right driver and if you don't have the driver provided with the device you bought (or got second-hand from someone), then the OS will use the next nearest option. This can cause anything from system instability to downright trouble output.

Oh, oh, that's funny, we never noticed that!

Now the manufacturers themselves at times make error during production which is realised

later (or from complaints from customers) who found out the device has problems either on some OS version or with some other hardware.

There is when the makers have to release a new version of the driver and is usually available via download from their web site. With the many version of Windows it is important to use the right version with the Windows you're running on. Using Windows 98 driver for a scanner is different from using a Windows 98 SE (Second Edition) driver! Sometimes the driver supports a few OS so you don't have to worry about this.

If ain't broke don't fix it!

Does this mean you must rush and download the 8MB driver pack from the manufacturer site each time they release a new version? Do I need to send the laughing cat around to paw some sense into your head? If you're not having any problems with your device, there's no need to

go download updates for the fun of it! Sometimes the new driver may have new features that enables your device to do more things so if you find you need this, then update it. Otherwise if all works well, keep to your current driver. There have been times where a newer driver caused MORE problems than an older one since only later was it found out that the new driver conflicted with certain brands of scanners (for e.g.).

A job well done!

All in all, for all the trouble drivers give us at times (besides the taxi driver complaining he doesn't want to take us somewhere because it's jammed), they do a good job of communicating between the OS and the device, freeing up the OS to concentrate on other tasks like multi-tasking and file management. Keep your drivers in shape and they'll take your computing experience to new roads you always dreamed! *Now excuse the cat while it clobbers its driver.*

Sci-Tech News

Super Computer

A Japanese computer has become the fastest computer in the world. It is called the NEC Earth Simulator. The NEC Earth Simulator creates a "virtual planet Earth" to predict climate patterns. It is as large as four tennis courts. It works at a speed of 35,600 gigaflops. A gigaflop equals a billion mathematical operations per second. A computer capable of calculating complex equations so quickly could save lives and property by predicting typhoons and other severe weather. The NEC Earth Simulator is five times faster than its American computer, IBM's ASCI White, which runs at a speed of 7,226 gigaflops.

Noodles in Space!

Japan's biggest noodle manufacturer, Nissan Food Products Company, are trying to find ways to make noodles easy to eat in space. At present, noodles are difficult to eat in space. They fly in all directions in zero gravity. So Nissan Food Products Company is using their creative brains to design a gravity-proof polystyrene cup that will keep the noodles in without flying everywhere. If they succeed, noodles will become the first instant snack in space

Something to Think About

- Brainsorm with a group of friends on how the NEC Earth Simulator could be used in predicting bad weather and saving lives.
- Imagine you are part of the first Malaysian space team. Would you want to eat instant noodles in space? What type of snacks would be good to eat in space? Give reasons



Mother's Day falls on the second Sunday in May. It is a day when children honour their mothers with cards, gifts and flowers. Mother's Day originated in the US by Anna M. Jarvis (1864-1948). An unmarried lady, Anna was very attached to her mother. When her mother died, Anna Jarvis and her friends wrote letters to politicians to declare a special day for mothers. She felt children often failed to appreciate their mothers. She hoped Mother's Day would increase respect for parents and strengthen family bonds. The first Mother's Day observance was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on May 10, 1908. Anna chose carnations, her mother's favorite flowers, for the service.

G. Hemavathy of Johor has written a poem entitled 'My Beloved Mum'. You can write one for your mother, too.

My Beloved Mum

Mum ...
From the moment I was born
You took care of me a lot
I slept peacefully as I closed my eyes
In your loving arms, troubles are gone.

Mum...
You are the one for me
You are the capable counselor to me
You are the greatest teacher to me
You are the most wonderful mum to me

Mum...
I recall the days you were
By my side, patient and gentle
Always willing to guide
Making me secure with nothing to hide.

Mum...
You were so patient and ever forgiving
You shared my moments of happiness
and sadness
You taught me kindness, neatness and love.

Mum...
I have many things to say
But a simple thank you cannot repay
What you have done for me each moment
But here are words from my heart to stay in yours.

Mum...
I love you more than words can tell
For words alone cannot say
How very much you mean to me
Throughout every single day.

Mum...
I always pray to God
To be with you
To bless and
To protect you every single day.

Mum...
I always thank God for giving me to you
You are among the wonderful things
You are the friend who was there
When others walked away

Mum...
I feel very proud because of you
You are the pearl that I got
from the sea of love
I love you, my beloved Mum.

Things to Make for Your Mother

1. Do a portrait of your mother.
2. Crumple coloured tissue paper. Glue each onto a string to make a pretty paper garland.
3. Paint a red heart on a large leaf and give her.
4. Find an old picture frame. Paint it pink. Decorate with heart stickers. If you have small seashells stick them with glue.
5. Paint a large seashell with glue, then sprinkle with glitter dust.
6. Cut a card in the shape of a seashell. On the outside write, 'Shell I tell you what you mean to me?' On the inside stick a shiny-looking pearl, with the message 'You are more precious than a pearl to me.'
7. Cut bread with a heart cookie cutter. Spread with Kraft cream cheese and strawberry jam. Serve them with tea.
8. Write a poem for your mother.
9. Cut out the back page of QUEST. Past the page on a hard paper and present it to her.
10. Give her a hug and say 'I Love You, Mum!'

1.

Population Growth in the City

- a. Read the article on *London's Population Explosion* on page 34. Why did people come to live in London? Why did some businessmen in London in the Nineties leave for overseas? How does rapid growth of a city affect the lives of its people?
- b. Get some friends together for this project. Imagine you are the *Datuk Bandar* (Mayor) of a new city. There are many people of different races, religions and cultures in your city. There are also people of all ages. How would you plan the city so that its people live happily, peacefully and in prosperity? Get your friends to come up with ideas.

2.

The Cloning Controversy

- a. Read the issues in the news on page 36. Select a topic from the list. Do further research on it. Then write an essay of about 200 words.
- b. Read the news on *First Human Baby Cloned* on page 37. Why do you think this issue is controversial? Discuss. Should humans be cloned? Think of all the advantages and disadvantages of cloning human beings. Consider not only the scientific aspects but also the religious ones too. Formulate your opinions. Then write an essay of not less than 200 words.

3.

Drugs and Brain Development

- a. Read the article on *Drugs Damage Brain Cells* on page 29. Why is it important for teenagers to keep away from drugs? Create a brochure to educate your peers on the importance of developing a healthy brain. The brochure should include information about how drugs can damage brain cells of teenagers who take drugs. Use strong words that would appeal to teenagers. Use some pictures for additional interest. Get your teacher to look through. Pin the brochure on your school notice board.

4.

The Mentally Ill

- a. Read the profile of John Nash Jr on page 22. What illness did he have? Are people with mental illnesses stupid? Is it their fault that they become ill? What causes mental illness? How can it be treated?
- b. For a class project explore the mentally ill population in our country. Get a copy of the latest Mental Health Act. What are the provisions made for the mentally ill? What should the role of the community be towards helping the mentally ill get back to normal daily routine? Are we doing enough to help them?



July 12 is World Population Day. There are about 6.2 billion people today. In cities around the world, population figures are rising. What happens when cities grow? Let us take a look at London.

London's Population Explosion



London is one of the major cities in the world. It is big, beautiful, rich and very expensive to live. It also has a lot of people – 7.4 million people to be exact – that's one third the population of Malaysia. In 14 years it is expected to have 8.1 million citizens. London is experiencing what we call a 'population explosion'. No other major city in Europe is experiencing a similar explosion.

In the past London's population was controlled because of certain plans by the British government. For 40 years after the Second World War, the government built new towns outside London. New towns created work for people. The plan helped to keep people away from London. In the Eighties, the government gave financial incentives to firms to locate their businesses outside London. It helped to reduce London's population.



Then later, as a result of globalisation, a lot of British firms went abroad to do business.

The population explosion in London today has puzzled experts because the population growth is unequal. Some areas are more heavily populated than others. Population has risen fastest in central London, Docklands, around Heathrow, and in Barnet, Richmond and Kingston. It is falling in most inner areas, including Lambeth, Lewisham, Southwark, Wandsworth Islington, and Hackney, plus Brent, Haringey, Waltham Forest and Havering.

The rapid growth of population will place a huge

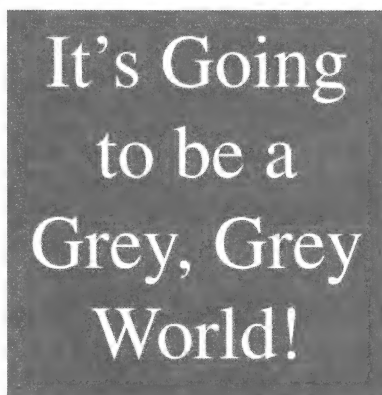
strain on housing, public services and the environment in different parts of the city. The rapid population growth will hit schools and transport. Houses would not be enough to cope with the demand.

In the Seventies, with the population falling, less houses were constructed in the capital. Then, later in the Nineties, when the population rose, there were not enough houses for the people. Therefore, the prices of houses shot up. House prices in London rose faster than the rest of Britain.

Planning experts say that by 2016 London will need 600,000 more jobs, most in financial and business services; a 50 per cent rise in house building for at least 400,000 new homes; 130 new schools, plus teachers, to educate 100,000 extra pupils by 2016. A rail link from Paddington to the City, and a new Tube from Hackney to south-west London would also be needed. To maintain law and order in a bigger community, more police officers would have to be trained. Other issues include curbing pollution, better pay for teachers, and finding development land without losing green space.

Planning experts say a more drastic idea is to encourage development elsewhere. London's mayor, Ken Livingstone, does not agree with

this. He says it would harm London's status as 'Europe's financial capital' with its first-rate cultural and leisure facilities: the factors that make it 'a powerhouse aiding the UK economy'.



If you have never given a thought to old people around you, we don't really blame you. After all when you are 15 years, being old seems a long way off. There are more young people than old ones around you now, and who cares? Life is fun right now, isn't it. Well, imagine another 50 years from now. You'd be 65 years. Your friends will be mostly old people.

According to a prediction by the United Nations (UN), the number of people older than 60 years will triple in 50 years' time. Old people will outnumber the world's youths, says the prediction during a UN conference on an aging world. The conference was attended was attended by representatives

from 160 countries.

The delegates discussed the challenges posed by older populations. The United Nations says older populations will change ways of 'savings, investment and consumption, labor markets, pensions, taxation... health care, family composition and living arrangements, housing and migration.' They addressed aging-related issues such as retirement age flexibility, living with dependents, elderly benefits, and technology and the aging process.

Facts on Age and Population

- Today the world median age is 26. By 2050, it is expected to increase to 36.
- In developed countries, almost one-fifth of the population was 60 or older in 2000; by 2050, this proportion is expected to reach one-third.
- The ratio of working-age people to those over 65 fell from 12-to-1 to 9-to-1 between 1950 and 2000. By 2050, the ratio is expected to fall to 4-1.
- The population of people over 60 is growing by 2 percent each year, considerably faster than the general population.

(Source: U.N. Population Division)

Only Peace can Bring Prosperity

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Malaysia's greatest achievement is perhaps the management of race relations. "We believe that only peace can bring about prosperity. In the maintenance of peace, sacrifices must be made and we are prepared to make these because we do not believe in being beholden to ideology (of democracy) to the point of destroying ourselves," he said at the 30th Annual Williamsburg Conference in Kuala Lumpur in April.

The country, he said, believed in upholding human rights for all but that in the exercise of individual rights, the rights of the majority must not be denied. "We regard it as wrong for individuals and minorities to exercise their rights in a disruptive way. The exercise of human rights must be accompanied by responsibility towards the community and towards maintaining stability and peace," he added.

30,000 English Teachers to be Trained

About 30,000 English teachers will be trained nationwide to improve the standard of English in schools. The Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamad said that the teachers would go for short-term courses at Malaysian English Language Teaching Centre (MELTC) in Kuala Lumpur.

The setting up MELTC was a major step towards further improving the standard of English as the second language subject in schools before other measures were adopted.

Learn Other Languages

From next year, primary school pupils can choose Mandarin, Tamil and Arabic. These subjects will be offered as optional subjects. The move hopes to foster racial integration through learning of each other's language. Malays could choose to learn Mandarin or Tamil. Chinese students could choose to learn Tamil.

Tamil students could choose to learn Mandarin. There is also the Arabic language.

The languages will be offered under a subject called Bahasa Tambahan. At present Mandarin and Tamil are taught as pupils' own language. They are not part of the timetable.

Environment-friendly Nation

A special project will be launched to make students aware on the need to preserve the environment. Under the project a school in each state will be made role model' in environment preservation. Gradually the programme will be extended to all other schools. The objective is to cultivate an environment-friendly culture in all schools eventually.

"The focus will be to create a high sense of awareness among students on the need to preserve our environment. We hope this will be a stepping stone to the building of an environment-friendly nation," said Science, Technology and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Law Hieng Ding.

Among environment values to be taught include lessons in optimum use of water, reducing wastage of electricity and recycling of wastes. The Government feels that schools are the best place to launch its target of creating an environment-friendly nation.

Top Honours for Roslin and Shalin

National badminton player Roslin Hashim and bowler Shalin Zulkifli were chosen the 2001 Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year. Roslin, a first-time recipient of the award, said "Winning this award will inspire me to achieve better results. There will always be ups and downs in my career but the most important thing is to bounce back when you're down."

It was the fourth time that Shalin has bagged the award. The 23-year-old Shalin, who also won the award in 1992, 1994 and 1996, said, "It feels good to win this award again after six years. I feel all

my hard work and sacrifices last year has paid off."

Shalin was the first woman to win the World Tenpin Masters title in London last year. She also bagged four gold medals in the SEA Games.

What Do Asian Kids Want?

Youth polls from countries around Asia show that young people are more concerned about themselves than improving their societies.

In Japan teenagers care more about having a good time than working towards a better society. Only 50% thought they should take care of their parents. About 27% of teenagers aged said they want to live each day happily'. Only 5.4% want 'to contribute to society and other people'. Only 9% said they donate blood or money.

In South Korea, a recent UNICEF poll revealed that 20% of young Koreans don't respect their elders.

In Thailand, a survey by Ogilvy & Mather showed that young Koreans' most important concern was to own a house (19%). Next in line were having a happy family, financial stability for the family, then career success. Only 2% wanted a better society.

In Hong Kong, a Boys and Girls Clubs Association poll found that young people aged 15-25 years want to be successful like millionnaires Li Ka-shing or Bill Gates. Few care about improving Hong Kong's heavily polluted environment.

Ecstasy kills Brain Cells

The drug Ecstasy kills brain cells. Beware. Studies in the US reveals that individuals who have used Ecstasy have a significant decrease in the brain's ability to use an important chemical called serotonin. Serotonin is involved in mood, remembering, pain and sleep. This was stated by Dr. Alan Leshner of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Too Much Television Causes Aggression

Teenagers who watch more than three hours of television daily are more likely to engage in aggressive behavior. They were more likely to be commit acts of aggression than those who watched less than one hour a day of television. The study was published in Science magazine in the US. The lead researcher was Jeffrey Johnson of the Columbia University. Johnson said the aggressive acts include assaults and fights. Sometime they used weapon to commit a crime.

Researchers tracked about 700 boys and girls for 17 years. Even accounting for factors such as family income, childhood neglect or psychiatric disorders, the link between watching violent television and behaving aggressively as an adult remains, the study said.

Professional health organizations such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Psychological Association and American Medical Association have also concluded findings that show a link between extensive television viewing and aggression. The nation's first major study on the effects of TV violence was in 1972. The U.S. surgeon general's report said, 'Televised violence, indeed, does have an adverse effect on certain members of our society'.

First Human Baby Cloned

An Arab newspaper report said that an Italian doctor has cloned the first human baby. The doctor, Dr Severino Antinori, runs a clinic for couples who are unable to have children. Dr Antinori claims that one of his patients is eight weeks' pregnant with a cloned embryo.

Many doctors are not pleased with the news. Doctors oppose human cloning because of concern about the welfare of the child. 'There are no benefits of cloned human beings, just harm', said one doctor.

Cloning humans is illegal in Britain. Antinori is also banned from cloning humans in Italy or the US. However, he is thought to be using Israel and Cyprus for his experiments.

First Human Baby Cloned

A cat has been cloned! The cat is called 'Cc'. It was cloned at Texas A&M University in College Station. The kitten joins a growing list of animals that have been cloned from adult cells, starting with Dolly the sheep and now including pigs, goats, cattle, mice and an oxlike creature called a gaur.

'She is as cute as a button,' said a spokeswoman for Texas A&M.

World's First Artificial Heart Transplantation

A 55-year-old man in Kentucky, US was the first man in the world to be given an artificial heart. The artificial heart was made by a company, Abiomed. Doctors have remained tight-lipped about the operation.

Marry and Have More Children!

Japan is urging young Japanese couples to work less and have more babies. The high cost of educating children, job demands and divorce rates are some of the reasons young people see children as 'a burden'.

Japan is worried because its birthrate is dropping. Less children means less people to do work. The Japanese government is also worried about the health care and retirement benefits of a graying population. Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi is exploring ways of boosting the birth rate by making married life with children more attractive to a younger generation.

Study: Drinking Caused 1,400 Deaths in US

American college students caused some 1,400 student deaths and 70,000 cases of sexual assault each year, whilst under the influence of alcohol. More than 1,100 of the deaths were among students between the ages of 18 and 24.

"Most of those alcohol-related deaths were the result of motor-vehicle crashes," said Dr. Ralph Hingson, professor at the

Boston University School of Public Health. Dr Hingson is the main researcher of the report, which was supported by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

New students, males, and athletes are likeliest to drink. Drinking rates are lowest in religious schools and where there are more African-American. The report recommended greater emphasis on college-community cooperation to deal with the problem.

More than Half Million Child Soldiers in Wars

The United Nations estimates that more than 300,000 children under the age of 18 are fighting worldwide, mostly with rebel groups. Most of them have been kidnapped and are aged between 15 and 17, but some are as young as seven years old. Child soldiers have been reported taking part in conflicts, in Sudan, Colombia, Angola, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and elsewhere. The U.N. move to ban their recruitment comes after a decade of campaigning by rights groups.

Giant Iceberg Off Antarctica

A giant chunk of ice has broken free from Antarctica and formed an iceberg 40 miles wide and 53 miles long. An iceberg is a huge floating block of ice that breaks apart from a glacier, or mass of ice that sits on land.

Children Face Many Dangers

Children face many dangers around the world. Among the most devastating for young people are poverty, dangerous labor and the sex industry. In Thailand in Southeast Asia an estimated 18-thousand children forced into prostitution each year. But Miguel Schapira of the International Labor Organization has been reporting on a theater group that is putting its skills to use to fight against the abuse of children.

Check your answers to the Language Games and Exercises on this page.

ENGLISH THROUGH SONGS

PAGE 8

boy
new
good
day
down
come
found

THAT'S NOT RIGHT-LAH!

PAGE 10

1. How long have you been learning English?
2. I have been waiting here for nearly one hour for you.
3. They have not been speaking to each other since yesterday.
4. I was so tired that I slept soundly for ten hours.
5. I have looked for them but they have not turn up yet.
6. I have not seen you for a long time.
7. I am trying to learn Spanish but I have not succeed yet.
8. We have lived here for six years and just decided to move.
9. Did you not hear me? I have been ringing the bell for ten minutes.
10. My father has gone to Penang for a meeting.
11. Have you ever seen a live jelly fish?
12. How long have you been waiting for me?
13. She has not eaten for ten hours.
14. I was very busy last week.
15. They came here a month ago.
16. I made a mistake and I would like to apologise.
17. He fell and broke his arm.
18. What are you looking for?
19. Do you remember me or have you forgotten me?
20. You must be careful when you walk at night.

COMPREHENSION ACTIVITY

PAGE 12

rarely, want, responded, Nothing, start, late, remember

WORD MEANINGS FROM

CONTEXT

PAGE 14

1. c. shy
2. b. unimportant
3. c. carry out
4. a. expecting the best to happen
5. b. promise
6. b. to suggest without clearly saying
7. a. weird
8. c. stick
9. b. fit to be eaten
10. a. of the planet Earth

LANGUAGE GAMES

PAGE 14

1. *b. cocoon* because the other words are not associated with the development of a butterfly.
2. *d. walk* because it fits in with the steady progression of activity from slowest to fastest.
3. *d. state* because the location size gets bigger progressively from smallest to biggest.
4. *d. train* because the mode of transport is from the fastest to the slowest.
5. *d. neck* because the parts of the body are arranged from the lowest to the highest according to the position from the foot upwards.

LANGUAGE GAMES

PAGE 15

1. orange
2. guitar
3. wink
4. maroon
5. paper
6. wood
7. farm
8. water
9. Topaz
10. baby
11. smile
12. sulk
13. double
14. circle
15. coal
16. rug
17. crouch
18. dance
19. sunshine
20. wicked

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Friends. You can't do without them. Did you know that there is a Friendship Day? Read what Shobi from SM Convent, Perak has to say...

Friendship

The Most Precious Asset

Everyone in this world has a friend. Friendship is a relationship between two or more friends. Friendship is a special gift worth more than the finest gold. Thus we must appreciate the value of friendship.

'How to be a good friend?' we should ask ourselves. We should judge a friend not by her position, looks and possessions but by her loving heart. As a good friend, it takes a lot of understanding, time, loyalty, trust to build a close friendship with someone. There are values in friendship. It helps us to solve a problem. If we are in trouble, a sincere and loyal friend will always be there for us.

I'm sure we all have secrets. The best person to share secrets with a trusted friend.

Knowing how important friendship is, Friendship Day has been created. It falls on 1 August. It has been created to honour the relationship we have with our friends. On this day, friends exchange gifts or friendship cards. This is to show gratitude, love towards our friends. We can also forgive and forget our differences we had with our friends.

I am very fortunate that I have many friends. I don't find life dull at all. One of them is special. Her name is Jasline Carmen David. She is sweet, strong and unselfish. I met her on the first day of secondary school on 5 January 1998, a date I shall never forget. We talked and became good friends. Although we are good friends, we are quite different really. She is jolly and is fond of company. I am quiet and like being alone. She likes games. I like reading. She loves to play practical jokes. I have plenty of humour but enjoy fun quietly. Yet, despite our different personalities, we are best of friends. We seem to understand each other somehow. I laugh at her for getting so excited about a hockey or football match. She laughs at me for being such a hermit and a bookworm. We are sympathetic, honest, straightforward, loyal and truthful with each other.

In conclusion, nothing can be compared to happiness found in a friendship. A friendship based on caring manner, trusting ways, love, praise will last a lifetime.

A HOUSE ON FIRE

*by Sam Zhi Xi
SMK Datuk Mansor,
Negeri Sembilan*

Basri and his friends were playing football on the field. Suddenly, they saw thick smoke coming out of a house situated adjacent to the field. Basri ran quickly to the telephone booth and called the fire brigade.

His friend shouted for help to alert the neighbours. The neighbours tried to put out the fire with pails of water but the fire spread rapidly because it was a wooden house. After five minutes, the fire engine arrived. The firemen put out the fire immediately.

The owner of the house cried sadly because her house was almost burnt to the ground.

She Finally Realised!

*SURAYA, SURIATI,
ADIRA, WAN AMINAH,
NURZILA, and SITI
NADIAH of SMK AGAMA
(P) KANGAR, PERLIS
came up with this story
that has elements of fairy
tales and a lesson.*

One day, Sara's mother gave her a basket of cookies and cakes to take to town. She went there unwillingly. Actually, she was extremely fed-up of doing the same thing everyday. As she walked, she grumbled to herself, 'It's unfair! I should be playing like other kids. In the town, as she did not treat customers well. Therefore her cakes were not sold. 'What a bad day,' she exclaimed. On her way back to her house which was located at the outskirt of the town, she felt tired, and decided to take a nap under a big shady tree.

Opening her eyes, she saw a big, beautiful butterfly. Without hesitation, she chased it, unaware of the surrounding changing around her. Eventually, she reached a small, cute chocolate house which was exactly like in the Hansel and Gretel Fairy Tale. As she was hungry, without any delay, she ate the wall which was made of creamy chocolate waffer. While eating greedily, a strange old man appeared. Holding a walking stick, he said, 'Hey, kid, you are eating my cottage. You must spin straws.' Soon she was already in a room full of straws. She cried. She reminisced about her family. After the death of her father, her mother had to become the sole breadwinner. They lived in poverty but her mother tried hard to provide a good life.

Sara was sorry. She had disobeyed her mother and this was the consequence. 'Mom, I owe you an apology. I'm sorry,' she said.

Suddenly, there was a bright light in the room. She saw three odd women. One had a big thumb. Another had thick lips. The last one had a big toe. Sara was scared but the women offered to spin the straw for her. But they had one condition. They asked her to become their child.

At night, the women started their work. Despite the sound from the spinning wheel disturbing her, Sara had a soundly sleep. When she woke up, she was really surprised, to find herself surrounded by golden straws.

The women were not there, but a sparrow was there with a piece of paper. Sara read it. It said a palace would be hers if she agreed to their agreement before. But she now realised that her mother was everything for her. She refused and bent down to kiss the sparrow.

Immediately the sparrow had change into her mother. She hugged her mother. Her mother said Sara had a dream. Even though it was a dream Sara promised herself that she will be a better person.

A Horrible DREAM

by Alessandra Foo, Kedah

One day, I had nothing to do. I felt unusually bored. Therefore, I read a novel about the obstacles in life of a beggar who eventually realised his dreams of becoming a businessman.

Suddenly, I smelt something burning. So I went to the kitchen. Thick black smoke was pouring out. I was shocked. I did not know what to do. All the windows and doors were locked except for a window in my bedroom. So I climbed onto the window to call for help. To my horror, the surroundings turned dark. Gloomy clouds appeared above. The wind howled. There was thunder and lightning followed by rain. As I ran out of the house I felt cold I came to a lodge. It was old and full of spider webs. It was horrible and made my hair stand.

I yearned for my parents. I felt sorry for them as I could not save our house. Then suddenly someone was running towards me. I was frightened. Then I heard my name being called. I opened my eyes. It was my mother. I had a dream and not a real life experience.

Chong Wei Ming of Sekolah Tinggi, Batu Pahat, advises teenaged girls to accept themselves for the way they are, and not try to change their looks.

Be Yourself!

She's beautiful. She has fair skin. Her body is well-shaped and she's got a boyfriend. And what have I got? I've got a round body, round knees and a round face with annoying spots all over my face. It feels like I'm the only unlucky creature in the whole world. The world seems so unfair, you say.

You're not alone. There are thousands more teenagers who feel exactly like you. We always get something that we don't want or something we want but can't get.

Sometimes we feel afraid to look into the mirror. Everyone else has a boyfriend. Well, who wants to be like everyone else? Each one is unique. Imagine if you are cloned. No one will care if you're dead. They can always get someone else who looks like you.

You don't have to buy all the pricey pills. If your boyfriend starts hating you after you stopped using those cosmetics,

then he's not the right guy for you.

Don't feel low. Look, if you are fat, then why are there products to get people gain weight? If you are dark, they why do Europeans and Americans go sun-tanning on the beach every summer?

Perhaps you are absolutely normal. Stop comparing. Stop complaining. Everything would be just fine. There will always be someone who will like you. The secret admirer likes you just the way you are. So, what to worry about now? If someone else can accept the way you are, why can't you?

READERS' CONTRIBUTIONS

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When she was 14 her first album was released in Colombia. She won multiple Grammy Awards and a World Music Award. Her albums have reached gold or platinum status in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, United States and Venezuela.

She is a most outstanding performer. She does not believe in using new recording techniques in her songs. She says, 'The fundamental essence of a song lies in the melody and the lyrics.'

Shakira

Newest Latin Star

Shakira is currently the most popular Latin female singer in both South America and North America. She is even more popular than another Latin female star, Jennifer Lopez.

Shakira was born in Colombia on 2 February 1977. 'Shakira' means 'woman full of grace' in Arabic. She is part Lebanese. One of her songs *Ojos asi* has a verse in Arabic. She sings in Spanish. Her songs include *Dónde Están los Ladrones*, *Dónde Están los Ladrones* and *Pies Descalzos*. She is now recording her debut English-language album, *Shakira*.

Shakira writes all her own songs. She started writing songs when she was a child. By ten, she had written over forty songs.



In the last issue,

Det in Confusion wrote:

I have a really big problem with my Dad. I do love him but when he starts to chafe, it traumatises me and I can't concentrate on my study. Sometimes, he seems like a nice, caring loving Dad but sometimes he acts like an old man who has lost his mind and scolds my Mom. I have no one else in this world except my Mom and my sister. I love them very much. My Mom always cries and it makes me hate my Dad. Whenever I see her crying I feel like wanting to chuck my Dad into the sea and never want to see him again. Please... someone help me.

XJL replies:

First of all, be thankful for a loving caring family you have. Sure, sometimes, every now and again, your Dad blows up. We all do, too. No one expects another to be an angel all the time. Have you ever thought about the heavy responsibilities your Dad has towards your Mom, your sister and you? He would probably have a few more at work, too.

Sometimes, as teenagers, we expect our parents to be like those you see on television advertisements - all smiling and sweet. Then, we look at our parents, stressed up and angry, shouting at us for the smallest mistake. We wish we could exchange them for the fantasy parents on television! Hello? We live in a real world. So think of the nice things about your Dad. Be kind to him, your Mom, your sister - and also to yourself. good luck!

SL vs TQY wrote:

I love a guy for a long time now. A few days ago I found that another guy from my school likes me. He has been staring and drooling over me. I don't want to end up with two guys. Please help.

Sis replies:

I had faced the same problem once. I think the best way is to appreciate the one who likes you but make sure he is serious.

L J wrote:

My friend has a problem. She feels she has hurt the feelings of a boy who was trying to be friendly with her. What can she do?

Teen replies:

If your friend really feels that way, the best thing is to be honest with the boy. Explain why she accidentally hurt his feelings and apologise to him.

Can you advise her?

HD writes:

I have one problem. I love a guy who is 26 years older than I. I am not sure whether he loves me or not. He has one daughter who is three years younger than I. Now I am in Form Four. I want to forget him but I can't. My family does not know about my problem. What should I do?

E-mail your replies or problems to :

leelagov @ tm.net.my

or write to:

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Selangor

STUDENTS CORNER

I am **Paul William** from **SMK St Michael, Ipoh, Perak**. I would like to send my dedications to: My parents, teachers, including my former teachers, Cik Dahlia, Mr Peter Khiew, En Halim, En Sivabalan, Mr Paul Goh (my Maths teacher), best friends, Adrian, Rizal, Azfar, Phobinder, Hafizul Marwan, all penfriends and Michaelians. My message is 'Remember me always and strive for the best.'

I'm **Kaisi Abd Rahman** from **SMU (A) Tarbiah Mardziah, Kelantan**. I would like to send my dedications to: Asyraf Ab. Latif (MML), friends Asma, Inie, Sue, Nik, Gee, Hanan, cousins Syahmun and Nasuha and my lovely sister, Maznira (UKM). My message is 'Whatever you do, remember Allah always.'

I am **Nur Farha Mohd Zaini** from **SMS Tengku Mohd Faris Petra, Kelantan**. I would like to send my dedications to: My best friend, Yusharmayanti Yurozian, my mentee Norsazana Deraman, my lovely sisters Thahirah and Husna, and all Form 3 students in SMSTMFP. My message is 'Let's do our best in PMR 2002 and thank you for your kindness.'

I am **Lili Farind Jamal** from **SMK Tenang Labis**. I would like to send my dedications to: 1. My beloved friends Nong, Intan, Fyda, Dayah, my cute sister in Melaka, my parents, teachers and classmates of 5S1. My message is 'Do the best in your SPM. Don't forget me, okay?'

I am **Noor Hashimah Ariffin** from **SMK Tenang Labis, Johor**. I would like to send my dedications to: My lovely parents, classmates of 5S1, teachers, best friends Noi, One, Suhaida, Ayu, Kak Ude, Chom, Kak Chik, Farid, Shamsuddin, Pape, Nor, Special Hairul (F Tenang) and all students of SMK Tenang. My message is 'I love you all. Study hard for the coming examination.'

I am **Wan Nurulhuda bt Hj Wan Ismail** from **SMK Tenang Labis, Johor**. I would like to send my dedications to: My family, best friends Chom, Bib, Noy, Ayu, Suhaida, Kak Chik, and brother Hafiz. My message is 'Try your best in your test.'

I am **Alicia Philip** from **SMK Tun Mamat, Tangkak, Johor**. I would like to send my dedications to my beloved parents, my cute sister, my teachers and best friends Mel, Sharu, Lalitha, Punitha, Jean and Yan. My message is 'Get prepared for SPM. Do remember me always because although we are apart, in heart, we are together.'

I am **Nazirah Ismail** from **SMK (Arab) Maahad Muhammadi Tumpat, Kelantan**. I would like to send my dedications to: My family, classmates, best friends Ja, Ram, Ekim, Zie, Nasirah and my teacher 'Sir Roslan'. My message is 'Let's do our best in SPM 2002. Remember ne always and I love you all.'

I am **Nadiah bt Abd Aziz** from **Maahad Muhamad (P) Kota Bharu, Kelantan**. I would like to send my dedications to: My beloved sister Nadiah (Thanks for everything. I love you so much.), ex-SRIAH 2000 and all PMR candidates of 2002. My message is 'Study smart. Knowledge is power. Knowledge is treasure.'

I am **Poh Tian Er** from **SMJK Yu Hua Kajang, Selangor**. I would like to send my dedications to: My lovely mother, Mr Seelan, classmates Juelena, Yaa Thing, Huey Ting and Li Beng. My message is 'Warm wishes for good health and happiness.'

I am **Norfadilah Ibrahim** from **SMK Tenang Labis**. I would like to send my dedications to: My parents, students of 3 Selasih 2, my best friend Diah, Ida, Air, Zizie, Zack and Irwan, my teacher Cik Vasugi (Thank you for everything) and all students of SMK Tenang. My message is 'May Allah bless you in everything you do'.

I am **Rozana Rasul** from **SMK Jalan Bukit Kajang**. I would like to send my dedications to my beloved parents, teachers and all my friends especially Ganesh, Karthik, Navin, Nalini and Kavitha. My message is 'Don't give up and I love you all.'

I am **Vanessa LSY** from **Sabah Chinese High School Tawau**. I would like to send my dedications to: my lovely parents, teachers of Sabah Chinese High School especially Teacher Mary Johny, Teacher Wong, Teacher Yong Wen Yue and Teacher Kaw, my best friends Pang Fei Erh, Kelly Wong, Kelly Chai, Connie, Siow Loke Peei, Michelle Lim, Elrica Lim, Cindy Lo, Rebecca Lie, my friends SIP's pupils SIB Jason Lim, SIG Liew KT, Sabah Chinese High School Military Band and Quest staff. My message is 'Be Happy always. Thank you.'

I am **Noor Arlina** from **SMKTB**. I would like to send my dedications to: All my teachers, best friends Sally, Sherley, Hasliena, Nor, Kak Imah, Kak Yong, Azhani, Fatimah Shairah (SMTT) and my classmates of 5 Dedikasi (2001). My message is 'May Allah bless you in everything you do. Don't forget me.'

I am **Faridah bt Daik** from **SM Sains Pasir Puteh, Kelantan**. I would like to send my dedications to: Students and teachers of SHAMS, KT, my beloved family, my best friends Syahidah (MRSM Pendang), Illuni (MRSM PC), Che Sop and all candidates SPM '02. My message is 'See you all in university. Miss you all very much.'

I was born into a happy family. Recently, I got an offer from a residential school. I was interested to go there but the fees were too expensive. My father is a retired man. He doesn't have enough money to pay for my fees. I feel very lucky because I have a wonderful brother. He paid for my fees. To all my family members Mr Yaacob, Mrs Rokiah, Mr Razman, Mr Razmi, Mr Robiamin, Mr Azhar, Mr Shaari, Miss Norhazita and all my sisters-in-law 'Thank you for being there for me. I love you all'.

You can e-mail your messages and dedications to:
leelagov @ tm.net.my

FOREIGN PENPALS

Sophie Taylor, (G), 11
67 Ewing Street
Murwillumbah
N.S.W
2484
Australia
Language Spoken: English
Would like to receive mail from girls aged 9 to 11
I like reading, swimming, watching TV and writing to penfriends.

Victoria Lehman, (G), 11
10705 E. Mercer Lane
Scottsdale
AZ
85259
United States
Would like to receive mail from those aged 11 to 14
I'm a competitive figure skater who is homeschooled. I want penpals from all over the world. I also love horses and music.

Christine Barbara, (G), 11
Address:
42 Hanini
Triq St.Fawstina
Zurrieq (Bubaqra)
ZRQ 05
Malta
Would like to receive mail from girls only aged 9 to 15

Jane Victoria, (G)
016 Pili Drive
Butuan City
Agusan del Norte
8600
Philippines
Language Spoken: English
Would like to receive mail from those aged 10 to 14
Looking for friends to exchange letters, stamps, postcards and mint currency and coins and other gifts.

Shirlene Wade, (G), 11
991 Tulip Court
Sunnyvale
California
94086
United States
Would like to receive mail from those aged 11 to 13
I enjoy horse backriding on beaches with my horse, Star, and I enjoy volleyball and skiing in Lake Tahoe. I am open to everyone, so if you choose to mail me, you will be sure to get a reply.

MALAYSIAN PENPALS

Muhammad Ayub Ombi, (B), 10.4.1984
Quarters Guru-Guru
Sek Keb Sinaran Budi,
Jln Kuala Garing
48000 Rawang
Selangor
Martial Art, Badminton, Camping

Chan Su Mei, (G), 21.11.88
PO Box 20763, Luyang
88764 Kota Kinabalu
Sabah
Reading, Collecting Stamps

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94760 Tebedu
Sarawak
Drawing, Fishing, Singing

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28, Jln Tian Han
85300 Labis
Johor
Music, Singing, Badminton

N. Janasya Varma, (G), 4.7.88
272, Lrg 9, Tmn ACBE
72100 Bahau
Negeri Sembilan
Collecting erasers, Reading

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36-A, Kg Bendang Bechah
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Drawing, Stamps, Computer

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Music, Computer

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103, Blk D7, Seksyen 2,
Wangsa Maju, Setapak
53300 Kuala Lumpur
Singing, Reading, Music

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715, Quarters Pertanian
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Computer, Internet, Reading

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198, Jln Chuah Teik Seng
Tmn Sening, Kg Boyang
34000 Taiping, Perak
Drawing, Music, Stamps

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1944, Tmn Kuda Krai
18000 Kuala Krai, Kelantan
Chatting, Reading, Computer

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67, New Rompin Estate
73500 Rompin
Negeri Sembilan
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Kelantan
Reading, Computer, Music

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Music, Internet

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21200 Kuala Terengganu
Friends, Travelling

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49, Jln Jenaris 3
Tmn Desa Sri Jenaris
43000 Kajang
Football

Syazwani Che Wan, (G), 6.8.88
108, Tmn Aman Muhibbah 2
32000 Sitiawan
Perak
Reading, Stamps, Radio

G. Hemanayagi, (G), 16.2.84
188, Jln Indah 4
Tmn Bkt Indah
28700 Bentong, Pahang
Reading, Music, Badminton

Francisca, (G), 14.8.81
67, Ladang New Rompin
73500 Rompin
Negeri Sembilan
Stamps, Music, Singing

Christina Lee, (G), 10.5.85
26-B, New Village
28340 Mengkuang
Pahang
Music, Stamps, Reading

Laavanyashni, (G), 30.9.85
17, Sg Sumun, 36300 Perak
Reading, Friends, Cycling

Nurnaima, (G), 30. 1.86
2582-2D, Blk G, Flat Polis
Wakaf Mek Zainab
15300 Kota Bharu
Kelantan
Correspondence, Tennis, Music

Wong Shine Yee, (G), 12.10.89
2, Taman Sempurna
Lorong Kecil Lengkuas
88300 Kota Kinabalu
Sabah
Swimming, Reading, Stamps

Nor Anis Atan, (G), 15.12.84
JKR 630 D, Qrts Polis
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Until we meet again in our next issue, all the best. Keep those letters coming. It is nice to hear from so many lively and lovely teens.

The Editor

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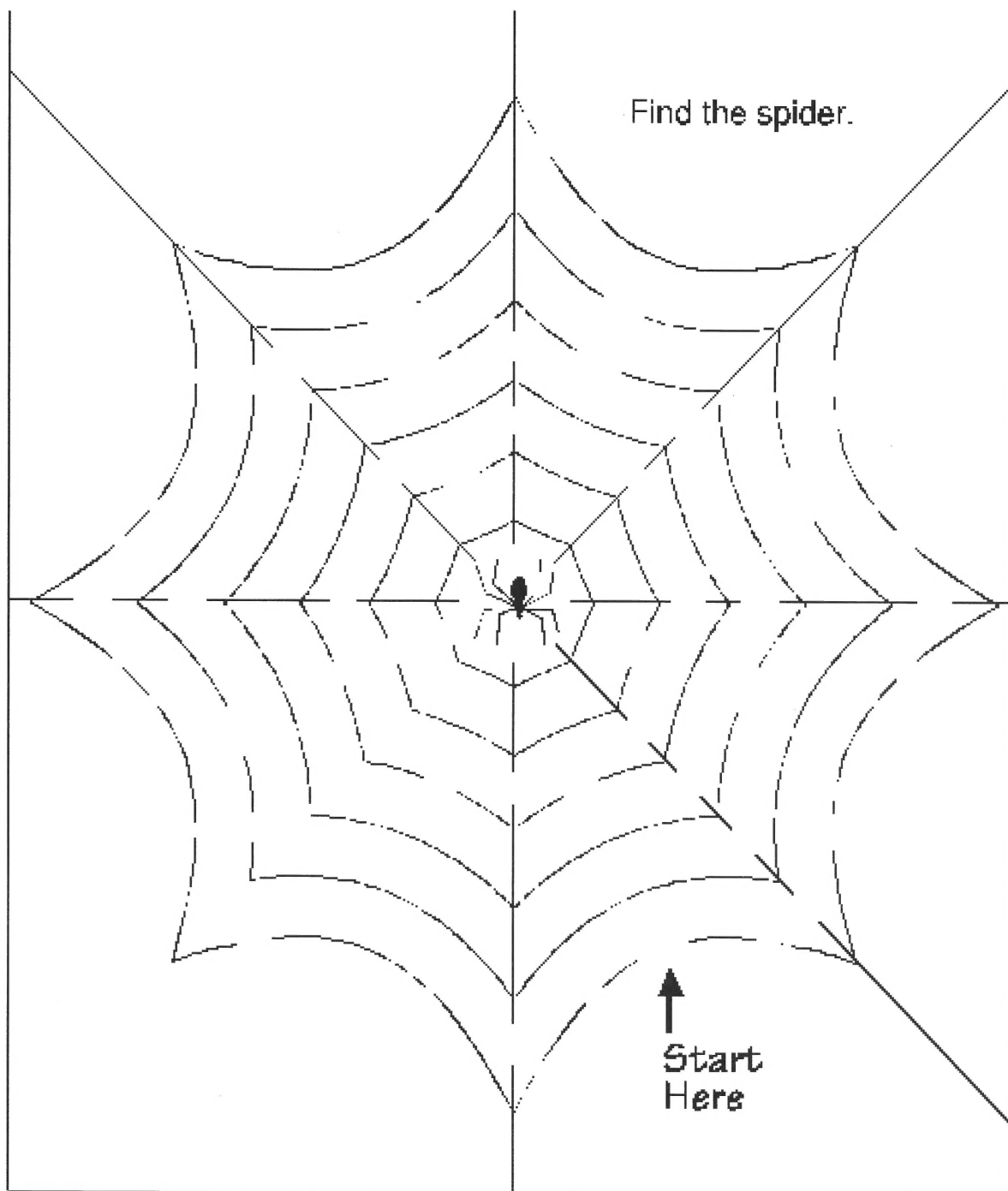
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Here is a web site with a difference. Log in and catch the spider.
Have fun!



Mother's Day

May 12, 2002



M ... is for the Million things she gave me,
O ... means Only that she's growing old,
T ... is for the Tears she shed to save me,
H ... is for her Heart of purest gold;
E ... is for her Eyes, with love-light shining,
R ... means Right, and right she'll always be.

*Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"
A word that means the world to me.*

- Howard Johnson (c. 1915)